

THE READER

A REVIEW OF LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

No. 49, Vol. II.

Saturday, December 5, 1863.

{ Price Fourpence,
Stamped, Fivepence.

NOTICE :—The Office of the READER is removed to 24, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.

NOW READY,
**CASES FOR BINDING VOL. I. OF
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Leipzig, having been appointed Agent for Leipzig and Northern Germany, it is requested that intending Subscribers will send their names to him. Books for Review may also be forwarded to him for enclosure in his Weekly Parcel.

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INDIA: MADRAS.—Messrs. GANTZ,
Brothers, 175, Mount Street, Madras, will register names of Subscribers on account of the "Reader." Annual subscription, including postage, 13 rupees.

FIRE AT 102, FLEET STREET.
MR. FREEMAN thanks his Neighbours for their generous offers of assistance and accommodation, and begs to inform THE TRADE and THE PUBLIC that *The London Christian Times* is published as usual. "SHIRLEY HALL ASYLUM" and the books advertised, but which are now destroyed, will be reprinted as speedily as possible. Letters and parcels may, for the present, be addressed to 147, Fleet Street, E.C.
Nov. 18, 1863.

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At the ANNUAL MEETING of the Proprietors in this Company, held on Thursday, 25th of February, 1863,
JAMES ASPINALL TOBIN, Esq., in the Chair,
The Report of the Directors for the Year 1862 was read; it showed:—

That the Fire Premiums of the Year were	£436,065 0 0
Against those in 1861, which were	300,131 0 0
Giving an increase in 1862 of	£75,934 0 0
That the new Life business comprised the issue of 788 Policies, insuring	467,334 0 0
On which the Annual Premiums were	13,935 7 11
That there was added to the Life Reserve	79,277 11 4
That the balance of Undivided Profits was increased	25,725 9 7
That the Invested Funds of the Company amounted to	1,417,508 8 4

In reference to the very large increase of £76,000 in the Fire Premiums of the year, it was remarked in the Report, "The Premiums paid to a company are the measure of that company's business of all kinds; the Directors therefore prefer that test of progress to any the duty collected may afford, as that applies to only a part of a company's business, and a large share of that part may be, and often is, re-insured with other offices. In this view the yearly addition to the Fire Premiums of the Liverpool and London Company must be very gratifying to the proprietors."

SWINTON BOULT, Secretary to the Company.
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SOCIETY OF ARTS.—CANTOR LECTURES.—The following Courses of Lectures will be delivered during the Session.
"On the Operation of the Existing Laws of Maritime Warfare on International Commerce," by G. W. Hastings, Esq.
"On Fine Art applied to Industry," by W. Burges, Esq.
"Chemistry applied to the Arts," by Dr. F. Crace Calvert, F.R.S.
Mr. Hastings' Course, consisting of Four Lectures, will commence before Christmas. The first, "On the Law of Blockade," will be delivered on Monday Evening next, the 7th December, at 8 o'clock.
These Lectures are free to Members of the "Society of Arts," each of whom has also the privilege of admitting Two Friends to each Lecture. The Wednesday Evening Meetings will be held as usual.
By Order of the Council,
P. LE NEVE POSTER, Secretary.
3rd December, 1863.

SWINEY LECTURES ON GEOLOGY, in connection with the BRITISH MUSEUM.—A COURSE OF TWELVE LECTURES ON CHEMICAL GEOLOGY, will be delivered by DR. PERCY, F.R.S., at the ROYAL SCHOOL OF MINES, Museum of Practical Geology, Jernyn Street, on THURSDAY and SATURDAY in each week, commencing on the 10th instant, at Twelve o'clock. Admission gratis.
TRENHAM REEKS, Registrar.

RUSSELL LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION.—Established 1808.—Great Cornam Street, Russell Square.
The ANNUAL COURSE OF LECTURES will be inaugurated on Tuesday, the 15th inst., by a Selection of Glees, Madrigals, &c. given under the direction of Mr. Donald King. On subsequent Tuesday Evenings, Lectures will be delivered by Dr. Carpenter, F.R.S., Professor Donaldson, James Glaisher, F.R.S., J. Bennett, F.R.S., Dr. Daniel, George Grossmith, D. Kennedy and E. Land, John Lubbock, F.R.S., Professor Marshall, F.R.S., Henry Nicholls, J. N. Radcliffe, E. A. Ramsden, and J. L. Roget, M.A.
Tickets of admission to the entire Course of Lectures, to a Dramatic Reading by Mrs. Prosser, and to a Conversation to be given at the end of the Session, 10s. 6d.; to a Single Lecture, 2s. 6d.
The Lecture Theatre may be engaged for one or more Evenings upon reasonable terms. For particulars apply to
EDWARD A. McDERMOT, Secretary.

A COURSE OF FOUR LECTURES
under the Auspices of the Missionary and Tract Society of the New Church, to be delivered at the New Jerusalem Church, Cross Street, Hatton Garden, on Tuesday and Thursday Evenings, at 8, is respectfully announced as below:—
December 8, by the Rev. R. Storry, "Religion and Life: their Mutual Relation."
December 10, by the Rev. R. Storry, "The Way to Happiness, with Happiness on the Way."
December 15, by the Rev. E. D. Rendell, "The Atonement: Man's Reconciliation to God."
December 17, by the Rev. E. D. Rendell, "Admission to Heaven." The Lectures will commence at 8 p.m. Admission—Free.
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From the *Times*, Sept. 3, 1863.
"THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.—In the Mathematical Section yesterday, a large number of papers were read, but only one was of any general interest. It was by Mr. H. Swan, and gave an account of a new invention in portraiture-taking. By a peculiar arrangement of two rectangular prisms, the appearance of a perfectly solid figure is given to a picture, and portraits which were unsatisfactory on a flat surface, have so much expression thrown into them by this invention, as to become quite pleasing and truthful."

From the *Standard*, Sept. 20, 1863.
"The casket portrait is a still further and more effective development of the photographic process than has yet been discovered—indeed, as far as truly realistic portraiture is desired, this method, which has been discovered by Mr. Swan, must meet the requirements of the most exacting in that style of individual representation. In that entirely new and original adaptation of optical illusion to the ordinary portraits taken by the photographer, the head and features of the sitter have all the distinctness and projection of a bust in marble, with the advantage of preserving the natural tints of the countenance in the most life-like manner."

From the *Illustrated London News*, Oct. 3, 1863.
"A solid image of the sitter's head is seen, looking with startling reality from the centre of a small cube of crystal, every feature standing out in as perfect relief as though chiselled by the hands of fairy sculptors. . . . Most people are fond of looking in the glass, but this portable and indestructible spectrum, reflecting no mere fleeting image, but containing the actual, palpable form of humanity, is certainly a most startling novelty. Natural science is daily explaining illusions which formerly gained the credit of being supernatural. This is an age less given to denying the existence of phenomena than to demonstrate the why and the wherefore of their existence. How would it be if, after all, the appearance in Zadkiel's magic crystal, at which we have all been laughing so much lately, had some photographic foundation, and the 'man in armour,' and 'lady in the pink dress,' were only 'casket or crystal cube miniatures'?"

From the *Intellectual Observer*, for November, 1863.
"The effect of the new process is to exhibit the subject of the portraiture with life-like verisimilitude, and in natural relief. You take up a small case, and look through what appears to be a little window, and there stands or sits before you, in a pleasantly-lighted chamber, a marvellous effigy of a lady or gentleman, as the case may be. The projection of the nose, the moulding of the lips, and all the gradations of contour, are as distinct as if an able sculptor had exercised his skill; but the hair and the flesh are of their proper tint, and the whole thing has a singularly vital and comfortable look. Indeed, were it not for the reduction in size, it would be difficult to avoid the belief that an actual man or woman, in ordinary dress, and with characteristic expression, was presented to your eye. In addition to portraits destined for morocco cases, and of ordinary miniature sizes, much smaller ones are taken and mounted in exceedingly pretty little caskets of fine gold. These form as elegant little shrines as any lover could wish to receive the effigy of his mistress, and far surpass any other mode yet devised of connecting portraiture with ornamental jewellery."

From the *London Review*, August 20, 1863.
"Suitable for presents, or for mementos of those closer friends or relatives of whom we might wish to have some special token of remembrance. They are set in a casket or case of any size, from that of a chateleine ornament to three or four inches in height. On looking into the casket, a life-like bust is seen."

THE READER.

5 DECEMBER, 1863.

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THE READER.

To secure its punctual delivery in Scotland, Ireland, and the Provinces, THE READER is Published every Friday afternoon at Two o'clock.

THE READER.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1863.

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"A. B." ON SPIRITUALISM.

THE other week we reviewed a book which is making a considerable sensation—"From Matter to Spirit, the Result of Ten Years' Experience in Spirit Manifestations, by C. D.; with a Preface by A. B." The unusual attention accorded to the book is, in part, owing to the rumour, already widely circulated and put into print, that "C. D.," the writer of the main body of the text, is Mrs. De Morgan, and that "A. B.," the writer of the Preface, is her husband, Professor De Morgan, one of the most eminent mathematicians, logicians, and philosophical thinkers of our time. We have no right to assume the rumour to be true, or even perhaps to repeat it after our contemporaries. But a bit of literary gossip has temptations that overbear etiquette, especially if one comes after all the rest of the world in repeating it; and, on reading the Preface to the book, signed though it be only with the letters "A. B.," we find the internal evidence of the authorship such as to justify us in exclaiming *Aut De Morgan, aut Diabolus*. It is for the sake of a more express notice of this Preface than we formerly gave that we now return to the book.

On the supposition that the general report as to the authorship of the Preface is correct, a peculiar interest naturally attaches to the conclusions of so eminent a man respecting those alleged phenomena of Spirit-Rapping, Table-Turning, Table-Tilting, Table-Lifting, Clairvoyance, Spirit-Writing, Spirit-Drawing, Spiritual Apparitions, &c., &c., of which the body of the book is a detailed record and exposition. Now, though "A. B." buries and involves his conclusions on this subject in a large quantity of ingenious and suggestive round-about dissertation, they may be picked out pretty distinctly. They are somewhat to this effect:—Ten years have elapsed since his mind was first awakened to the new order of phenomena by some extraordinary performances of, or through, the American medium, Mrs. Hayden, in his own house.

During these ten years he has had so much experience of the same kind that now he can say, "I am perfectly convinced that I have both seen and heard, in a manner which should make unbelief impossible, things called spiritual which cannot be taken by a rational being to be capable of explanation by imposture, coincidence, or mistake." So far he feels the ground firm under him. But, when it comes to the cause of these phenomena, in whose actual occurrence he believes so strongly, he professes himself to be, for the present, quite at sea. He would call by the name Spiritualists all those who accept the alleged facts, or some of them, as facts; and, therefore, he would include himself among the Spiritualists. But within this definition of the Spiritualists he recognises three classes—"those who believe that the communications are spiritual, those who do not see what else they can be, and those who do not see what they can be." In which of these classes does the writer place himself? On the whole, we should say, in the last—i.e., in the least pronounced, or most sceptical, class of Spiritualists.

When it comes to what is the cause of these phenomena, I find I cannot adopt any explanation which has yet been suggested. If I were bound to choose among things which I can conceive, I should say that there is some sort of action of some combination of will, intellect, and physical power, which is not that of any of the human beings present. But, thinking it very likely that the universe may contain a few agencies—say half a million—about which no man knows anything, I cannot but suspect that a small proportion of these agencies—say five thousand—may be severally competent to the production of all the phenomena, or may be quite up to the task among them. The physical explanations which I have seen are easy, but miserably insufficient; the spiritual hypothesis is sufficient, but ponderously difficult.

According to this passage, "A. B." is still utterly uncertain as to what may be the cause of those extraordinary phenomena of the actual occurrence of which he has convinced himself. He has tried all the hypotheses suggested, but has seen no reason positively to commit himself to any of them, and is still open to any physical or physiological explanation that time and science may offer. But, as the passage will have indicated, he has so far a leaning to "the spiritual hypothesis"—i.e., the hypothesis that the alleged phenomena are caused by living and intellectual beings, not human, or not now human—that he considers this hypothesis, if on other grounds he could accept it, decidedly the most competent yet offered in explanation of the phenomena in question. In another part of his Preface he anticipates that most current of all objections to the spirit-hypothesis—that, if some of the alleged phenomena are true, and some of the alleged spiritual communications through mediums are accurately reported, then there must be in the spirit-world as great idiots and blockheads, as silly and purposeless never-do-wells, and even as great scoundrels, as on our own side of that aerial wall through the crannies of which they, as well as their spiritual betters, are eager to say what they have got to say. He disposes of this objection very summarily. In his own experience, he says, he has seen and heard enough to convince him that, if the alleged phenomena originate with spirits, then they do show that "pretenders, coxcombs, and liars are to be found on the other side of the grave as well as this;" but in this he finds no difficulty, for he dismisses the matter with Meg Dods's well-known phrase in "St. Ronan's Well," "And what for no?" Having, accordingly, this amount of leaning to the spiritual hypothesis, he fills a considerable portion of his Preface with an apology for those more pronounced Spiritualists who differ from himself in holding to the hypothesis out and out. According to the whole analogy of the past course of human thought and discovery, he declares, they are in the right track—they have got hold of a hypothesis which, whether it turn out to be true or false, will set them to work more ener-

getically than if they had no such hypothesis, and will serve at least as a provisional instrument for the exploration of the truth. "They have," he says, "the spirit and the method of the grand time when those paths were cut through the uncleared forest in which it is now the daily routine to walk"—the spirit, inasmuch as they are brave enough to examine everything without the fear of being laughed at if detected in the investigation of nonsense; the method, inasmuch as, with all our talk about Bacon and induction, no leap in science was ever made except by some flashing guess, or inspired conjecture, or impassioned "Thus it must be" of the mind, far in advance of any contemporary collection of facts. Through a considerable portion of the Preface, we say, the writer expands, and varies in expression, this defence of the extremest Spiritualists than himself, including the author of the body of the volume which the Preface introduces.

Now, even from "A. B.," if "A. B." is the distinguished person he is reputed to be, all this will fall on the general intelligence less as an argument than as a most surprising thump. In the first place, there is the great initial question as to the reality of the phenomena on which "A. B." bases his speculation. He tells us, indeed, that those who now believe in the reality of these phenomena, if we include those who half-conceal their belief as well as those who speak it out, are "very many in number," and that, "by one of those epidemic movements which seem to be made for the advancement both of truth and falsehood, there has been a sudden and general recognition of the existence of phenomena which historical inquiry shows never to have been entirely unknown." But there is still a vast block of public opinion, including almost all our scientific men accustomed to investigation and to the rigid conditions of scientific experiment, who reject the alleged phenomena, or the most extraordinary part of them, and think that even "A. B." may have deceived himself, and that "imposture, coincidence, or mistake" would sufficiently explain all that has moved his massive mind off the grooves of the ordinary wheels of things. Then, farther, even among those who grant—as perhaps more now do than did some time ago—that there is a certain authentic residuum of the alleged phenomena (some of the mesmeric manifestations, for example) not attributable to imposture, or coincidence, or mistake, the insuperable feeling is that, though Science may have hitherto neglected these phenomena too much, yet they belong to ordinary science, and are only a set of unorganized facts pointing the way to an extension of Physiology. With these men the conviction is firm, that, whatever new order or orders of phenomena Time may evolve (and perhaps it is in the nature of things, as a progress of conditions becoming more and more exquisite, not only that new orders of phenomena shall become cognisable, but actually that they shall come into existence), yet there will never be any bursting of the walls of the supernatural, never an inch of approach nearer to the spiritual mystery of things, but simply and always only so many phenomena the more to be credited to what is known as Nature and to be explained by agencies within those limits. Hence, to them, the spiritual hypothesis, even if we were to suppose the alleged facts to which it is applied to be true to the utmost, is a state of mind treasonable to all true science, and a plunge back into the sheerest superstition and confusion of intellect. That there should be a body of persons calling themselves Spiritualists, in the sense that they can account for any phenomena of the senses whatever only by rushing to the supposition of the action of the spirits, is to them a matter for pity.

There is much in "A. B.'s" Preface addressed also to these scientific opponents of his views, and generally to what he calls "Decemnovenarianism," or the spirit of the Nineteenth Century about things in general. Indeed, though it is the so-called spiritual manifestations that are the avowed subject

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of "A. B.'s" essay, and that have set his mind agoing in it, the essay as a whole is a capital bit of reading, for all and sundry, on the general text, as Hamlet himself may have meant it, "There are more things in Heaven and Earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy." It abounds in ingenious and striking remarks, in odd turns of fancy, and in witty and picturesque expressions. There are passages in it capable of being entirely detached from their places in an avowed apology for Spiritualism, and of being presented by themselves as examples of suggestive and stimulating, if not sound or satisfactory, reasoning. There is a passage on "The Four Courts of the Mind," and another on what the author calls, metaphorically, "Fugling," or the representation of a corporate process of mind by some single exaggerated instance of the same process stationed in front of it, which might be placed in a book of extracts for their happy speculative quaintness, if not for something better. Despite the avowed purpose, the spirit of the essay is, in the main, eminently sceptical, in the sense of shaking, or stirring, or unsettling, or at least titillating the mind; and it is because it would be a pity that so racy a bit of literature of this kind should be lost sight of by any on account of its association with such questionable matters as Spirit-rapping, Table-turning, Table-lifting, Spirit-hands, Spirit-voices and the like, that we have here called attention to it.

CURRENT LITERATURE.

MR. KIRK'S HISTORY OF CHARLES THE BOLD.

History of Charles the Bold, Duke of Burgundy.
By John Foster Kirk. Two Volumes. (Murray.)

THE most prominent character of the fifteenth century, and perhaps, indeed, of the Middle Ages since Charlemagne, is Charles the Bold, Duke of Burgundy. Had not death put an early end to his career history would probably have immortalized him as the founder of a powerful empire. The attention of posterity has been so attracted to the romantic side of his life that we have not until now possessed a standard history of his eventful reign. Philippe de Commines, Gachard, Michelet, and many others, have failed to grasp the entire *ensemble* of the life of this hero of his age.

The difficulty of unravelling the accumulation of documentary evidence, and of examining the fruits of critical researches, has become very considerable. Mr. John Foster Kirk has therefore undertaken no easy task in preparing a complete history of Charles the Bold. His rivalry with Louis XI. formed one of the most conspicuous features of his career, requiring much patient investigation on the part of the historian. It was a contest such as writers of romance delight in depicting. At every wily endeavour to seize the reins of power, the French monarch found himself confronted by the mailed figure of his haughty vassal; and, on the other hand, wherever the daring projects of Charles were at work, there was he sure to feel the undermining and counteracting influence of his enemy.

Mr. Kirk opens his narrative with an impressive description of the disastrous results of the murder of the Duke of Orleans by John the Fearless, and of the civil war between the Burgundians and the Armagnacs—or, rather, we may say, the total anarchy which drove the peasantry in despair to seek refuge in the forests, exclaiming that "surely the devil was taking possession of the earth." Not only were the villages and lands almost depopulated, but the desolation in the towns was even greater. An eye-witness states that, in the summer of 1418, the Armagnacs having been defeated in Paris, "il n'y avait pas de rue où il n'y eut des meurtres; les cadavres gisaient en tas dans la boue. Le Dimanche, 29 Mai, seulement, 522 hommes trouvèrent une mort violente dans les rues,

sans compter ceux tués dans les maisons." Famine soon followed war, and both generated pestilence. These dramatic scenes, and the assassination of John the Fearless on the bridge of Montreaux, twelve years after the murder of the Duke of Orleans, are powerfully narrated by the author. At length Philip the Good, father of Charles the Bold, made peace with France, and the king, for the restoration of order and discipline, created, for the first time in Europe, a standing army.

In 1433 our hero was born at Dijon, and exhibited, even in infancy, the violence and impetuosity of his temper. He received a princely education, and acquired a much larger share of learning than usually falls to the lot of his equals in rank. We are glad to observe that Mr. Kirk, in this part of his work, takes the opportunity of exposing the deviations from the truth, and even the distortion of historical facts, of which Sir Walter Scott is guilty in his novel of "Quentin Durward," where he attributes to Charles the Bold precisely those vices from which he was altogether free, and gives a false colouring to the whole period.

Two years after the marriage of Charles the Bold with Isabella of Bourbon, there arrived at the court of Brussels (1456) a fugitive from France, barely seventeen years of age, who was afterwards to be Louis XI. and the bitterest enemy of the Duke of Burgundy, upon whose bounty he now lived for five years. At the death of Charles VII., the Duke accompanied the new King of France, with a triumphal procession of 3000 or 4000 men, to Rheims, where Louis was to be crowned. Philip the Good, with his son Charles, and the nobles of the court, appeared in great splendour, preceded and followed by pages, archers, and men-at-arms, all in gorgeous costumes and blazing with jewellery. The coronation, and the festivities that followed, read more like a fairy tale than a page of history; but the author is careful to refer us continually to his authorities. A visit made somewhat later by the King of France to Philip, at his castle of Hesden, affords a very amusing picture of that favourite residence of the Burgundian sovereign.

By a stranger who accidentally found himself within its walls it might have been mistaken for the haunt of whimsical and malicious genii. Its principal gallery was a complete museum of *diableries*, being secretly surrounded by ingenious mechanical contrivances for putting into operation the broadest possible jokes. The unsuspecting visitor found himself performing, quite involuntarily, the part of Pantaloon. If he laid his hand upon any article of furniture he was saluted with a shower of spray, besmeared with soot, bepowdered with flour. When a numerous company were assembled, the ceiling, painted and gilded in imitation of the starry sky, would be suddenly overcast; a snow-storm followed, or a torrent of rain, accompanied by thunder and lightning. The water even ascended by fountains through the floor for the especial discomfort of the ladies. The guests, attempting to escape, only plunged into fresh embarrassments. If they sought egress by the door they had to cross a trap which, being suddenly withdrawn, dropped them into a bath, or into a large sack filled with feathers. If they opened a window they were blinded with jets of water, and the aperture closed again with a violent noise. Meanwhile they were pursued by masked figures who pelted them with little balls, or belaboured them with sticks. A full description of these *ouvrages de joyeuseté et plaisance*, as they are termed, have been given by the inventor himself, *Colart le Voleur*.

In June 1467, the Duke Philip the Good breathed his last, after having raised the Netherlands to a height of prosperity that was the envy of the world. His remains were deposited in the church of Saint Donatus at Bruges. Thither they were borne at night amid the blaze of sixteen hundred torches. More than a score of prelates officiated at the obsequies. The heralds broke their batons above the bier, and proclaimed in doleful tones that Philip, duke of four duchies, count of seven counties, lord of innumerable lordships, was dead. Then, raising their

voices to the loftiest pitch, they cried, "Long live Charles, Duke of Burgundy, of Brabant, of Limbourg, and of Luxembourg; Count of Flanders, of Artois, of Burgundy, of Hainault, of Holland, of Zealand, and of Namur; Marquis of the Holy Empire, Lord of Friesland," &c., &c. The multitude that thronged the church responded with a jubilant acclaim. Thus, at the age of thirty-three, Charles the Bold came into possession of an inheritance unsurpassed by any prince in Christendom. This closes the first book of Mr. Kirk's History, replete with details of the highest interest, drawn from sources very little known to English readers.

In the first four chapters of the second book, after having given a long and vivid description of the prosperity of the country, the author rivets the attention by pictures of the court and household of Charles of Burgundy—his mode of government, and the development of his stern and implacable character.

A little more than a year had elapsed since the death of Philip when Charles solemnized his marriage at Bruges with the Princess Margaret of York. She arrived at the Flemish port of Sluys with a fleet of sixteen vessels, commanded by the Lord High Admiral of England. The marriage was celebrated with extraordinary splendour, and the festivities were kept up for more than a week with unabated vivacity. The alliance by marriage with England was ominous to the French king, who made an appeal to the nation, and for the first time in France summoned the representatives of the different classes of his subjects, with the intent of submitting his measures for their deliberation and advice. With the duplicity natural to his character, Louis, while he accepted an interview with the Duke Charles at Peroune, plotted against him at Liège. This so enraged Charles that the king was momentarily kept in captivity, and his fate was in suspense for many days. The Duke at last, however, decided upon the measure which was at once the most politic and the least criminal. The famous treaty of Peroune was signed by both parties, and the two princes set out together to crush the rebellion at Liège. The fate of the city was appalling. The inhabitants were massacred without pity—no lives were spared. With the exception of churches and monasteries, the whole town was destroyed by fire, and the ruins levelled with the ground. The chastisement of the rebels of Liège was followed by the punishment of the citizens of Ghent, who had mortally offended the Duke on the occasion of his *Joyous entry* into their town.

These severe measures produced a deep impression on the people, and made them look upon the new sovereign as the most powerful and the most redoubtable in Christendom. The reign of Charles the Bold divides itself naturally into two periods. During the first he is chiefly engaged in attempts to undermine the French monarchy; in the second he is occupied in unceasing endeavours to establish a power which should rival, and even rise superior, to the kingdom of France. The last years of the fifteenth century are universally recognised as teeming with remarkable events—the starting-point, in fact, of modern, in contradistinction to mediæval, history. The struggle which preceded this epoch is vividly reflected in every phase of the ambitious and warlike career of Charles the Bold. His history forms a vantage-ground from which a wider survey can be made of the internal affairs of foreign states than is to be obtained from any other point; and it is chiefly on this account that the present work excites a greater degree of interest than the life of any other sovereign, with the exception, perhaps, of that of Charlemagne.

It was with something of the splendour of this last-named monarch that the Duke of Burgundy made his entry into the venerable city of Trèves, on the 30th September, 1473. He had been promised irrevocably, and for life, the appointment of vicar-general of the

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whole empire, and also his elevation to the throne, on the death of the existing Emperor, Frederic.

The avenue and streets were densely crowded with spectators, curious to behold the far-famed splendours of the Burgundian court, and to scan the features of a prince whose character and actions had produced so deep an impression on the mind of the contemporaries. He rode side by side with the head of the Holy Roman Empire. Over his armour of polished steel he wore a short mantle so thickly sprinkled with diamonds, rubies, and other gems that its cost was estimated at not less than two hundred thousand gold crowns. He carried in his hand a velvet hat, on the front of which blazed a diamond of inestimable price, while his jewelled helmet was borne behind him by a page. His horse, a famous black steed of incomparable strength and beauty, was equipped in warlike harness, but covered with caparisons of violet and gold that descended to the ground. The emperor, arrayed with sufficient magnificence, in a long robe of cloth of gold bordered with pearls, and worn in the Turkish fashion, presented in other respects a striking contrast to his proud and powerful vassal. Age had somewhat bent his form, but added nothing to the dulness of an eye always expressive of indolence, timidity, and incapacity, of a character, in short, ludicrously ill-adapted to his position at the head of Christendom. The purple, though it concealed his distorted foot—the result of a disease said to have been contracted by his inveterate and lazy habit of kicking open every door through which he wished to pass—could not hide his vulgar features, vulgar manners, and slothful intellect. Never, say the describers of this scene, though very familiar with the pomps and pageants of the age, had there ever been witnessed such a blazing of gold, such a sparkling of gems, such a flaunting of damask and velvets of the richest hues and costliest texture, such a prancing of steeds and waving of banners, until the eye was dazzled by the continuous stream of confused magnificence. France and the whole of Western Germany were in a fever of speculation, for they expected that soon Charles would be solemnly crowned at Trèves and placed at the head of a Burgundian monarchy. Indeed, the diadem, sceptre, and other regalia were no longer mere air-drawn visions, but had taken tangible shapes under the hands of skilful workmen.

Mr. Kirk proceeds to describe in an admirable style, unsurpassed in the best pages of Prescott, how all these bright prospects fell to the ground, and were defeated by the intrigues of Louis XI. and the weakness of the Emperor Frederic.

The league against Burgundy was a masterly stroke, and prepared with great political skill by the King of France. On the 25th October, 1474, the magistrates and people of the communities constituting the great confederacy of Upper Germany, proclaimed themselves the enemies of Charles the Bold. The message was secured to the herald's staff in the usual manner, by being inserted in a split at one extremity. Its concluding words stated that "this declaration was with purpose to execute it, whether in attack or defence, in the day or in the night, by slaying, by burning, by plundering, and by all other customary methods, whereof he was required to take notice." With this open defiance Mr. Kirk ends the second volume of his work. We impatiently await the third, which must contain matter of even deeper interest than the foregoing volumes.

CAXTONIANA.

Caxtoniana: a Series of Essays on Life, Literature, and Manners. By Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, Bart. Two Volumes. (Blackwood.)

IN these handsome volumes Sir E. B. Lytton appears in a new light, creditable to his courage and to that sincere belief in his own genius which goes so far to redeem his countless affectations. It is a dangerous experiment for one accustomed to clothe his thoughts in an imaginative garment to address himself to plain understandings in simple words. Nearly everything that has hitherto constituted his strength must be discarded; he divests himself of many legitimate pleas to indulgence, and submits to conditions by which he need not have been

bound. Few writers, we should have feared, would have borne this ordeal so ill as Sir E. B. Lytton, for few have taken such large advantage of the privileges conceded to the writer of fiction. Compared with the magnitude of his pretensions, the poverty of thought in his novels is really remarkable; reversing St. Paul's character of the early heretics, he is ever teaching, and never able to communicate truth. Magniloquence, calculated obscurity, false sentiment, and adjectives in capitals have hitherto constituted his stock-in-trade as a philosopher. At the same time, no one who had noted his immense industry and dexterous adaptation of his wares to the reigning taste could dispute his claim to such practical ability as might prompt him to dispense with the old theatrical and rhetorical devices when attempting a style of composition in which these could no longer be of service. We are pleased to see that Sir Edward has proved equal to the emergency, and has betaken himself to common sense with the alacrity of a War Office resorting to rifled guns, or other necessities of a new condition of warfare. Strange as it may appear, these volumes are as devoid of claptrap as of true eloquence. A certain air of falseness pervades them, but it is such as is inseparable from the efforts of a shallow man to think profoundly, and not premeditated and deliberate affectation. There is no attempt to pass off words for things—the essays actually turn on topics interesting to the writer, and present the best fruits of his thinking in a very refined and elegant style. The admirers of Sir Edward's fictions will probably consider it a high compliment when we say that we greatly prefer him to Eugene Aram or Zanon, and find him a more agreeable instructor when catering for *Blackwood's Magazine* than when, as he somewhere gives us to understand is sometimes the case, "the moon is shining in at his heart." It is not that his novels are not far more brilliant and entertaining compositions than anything we have here, but that here we have the pleasure of believing him in earnest—a bliss heretofore denied us. To us, this unexpected gratification affords a fair set-off against the tameness and mediocrity with which some portions of these essays may be regarded as chargeable. Considering the bulk and miscellaneous character of the collection, we are rather surprised to find the average standard of merit so high. Something is no doubt due to the general polish of the style, producing a pleasing impression of culture and refinement even where there is nothing else. Sir Edward writes with studied elegance, observing his own precept when he says:—

In every good prose-writer there will be found a certain harmony of sentence, which cannot be displaced without injury to his meaning. His own ear has accustomed itself to regular measurements of time, to which his thoughts learn mechanically to regulate their march. And in prose, as in verse, it is the pause, be it long or short, which the mind is compelled to make, in order to accommodate its utterance to the ear, that serves to the completer formation of the ideas conveyed; for words, like waters, would run off to their own waste were it not for the checks that compress them. Water-pipes can only convey their stream so long as they resist its pressure; and every skilled workman knows that he cannot expect them to last unless he smooth, with care, the material of which they are composed. For reasons of its own, prose has therefore a rhythm of its own. But by rhythm I do not necessarily mean the monotonous rise and fall of balanced periods, nor the amplification of needless epithets, in order to close the cadence with a Johnsonian chime. Every style has its appropriate music; but without a music of some kind it is not style—it is scribbling. And even when we take those writers of the last century in whom the taste of the present condemns an over-elaborate care for sound, we shall find that the sense which they desire to express, so far from being sacrificed to sound, is rendered with singular distinctness; a merit which may be reasonably ascribed, in great part, to the increased attention with which the mind revolves its ideas, in its effort to harmonise their utterance. For all harmony necessitates method; and the first principle of method is precision.

The following passage is another example of the author's manner at its best:—

Free institutions necessarily tend to the wider range and securer privilege of free opinions. The Greek eunatrid or the Roman patrician, who had to court the votes of his phyle, or of his clients, could not fail to acquire a large and liberal acquaintanceship, not only with the selfish interests, but with the nobler motive-springs of impassioned multitudes, such as is shown in Thucydides or Cicero: and as all knowledge becomes, as it were, atmospheric, and once admitted into the common air of a place, is generally inhaled, so even poets, aloof from the arena of politicians, caught that generous influence from the very breath they drew in, and express it in their pages. But still the tone of a society refined by aristocratic distinctions is apparent in the elegance with which the classic writers utter the sentiments popular with the crowd. But if, in forms of government which exclude free political institutions, though admitting great latitude of literary speech, knowledge of the world is apt to become too narrowed to that of a privileged circle, so, on the other hand, in forms of government so popular as to exclude admitted differences of rank, I know of no writers in whom knowledge of the world is a conspicuous attribute. The United States of America have produced authors remarkable for number and excellence, considering the briefness of period during which the American Republic has existed—remarkable even for national originality, considering the disadvantage of writing in a language appropriated already to enduring masterpieces in the parent State. But while in science and philosophical discussion, in theology, in poetry, and prose fiction, democratic America is rich in works which command just admiration, the main fault of her authorship, and, indeed, of her statesmanship, in dealing with foreign countries, has been the want of that *comity*—that ineffable urbane wisdom which has its expression in good breeding, and without which knowledge of the world has the air of a clever attorney in sharp practice. The absence of a fixed and permanent order of refined society, with its smile at the bombast and balderdash that captivate the vulgar, seems to lessen the quick perception of genius to the boundaries between good taste and bad; so that, when I read the printed orations of American statesmen, I find a sentence of which a Grattan might have been proud followed by a tawdry claptrap of which even a Hunt would have been ashamed. The poets of this grand Anglo-Saxon family, escaping from the popular life, and following the Muse in the retirement of their groves or their closets, eliminate from their graceful verse knowledge of the world altogether; they often philosophise on man in the abstract, but they neither depict in their drama nor adorn in their lyrics, nor moralise, in their didactic vein, upon the actual world, which the ideal world surrounds with a purer atmosphere, but from which it draws up the particles it incorporates in its rays of light, or the vapours it returns in dews. Shakespeare places alike a Miranda and a Stephano in the Enchanted Isle which has Caliban and Ariel for its dwellers; and Horace invokes now a Tyndaris, now a Mæcenas, to the cool of the valley resonant with the pipe of Faunus.

Passages like these certainly entitle Sir Edward to the praise of being a sensible, useful, and attractive writer. The attempt to claim more for them can only serve to throw ridicule on performances in themselves sufficiently respectable. It is sure to be made, however, by his admirers. Nor, although too wary and well-bred to put forth many extravagant pretensions, does he leave us in ignorance of his opinion of himself, and of the niche he expects to occupy in the Valhalla of the future. Throughout these pages there is an air of genius writing down to ordinary comprehension, sufficiently comic to those who, like ourselves, regard Sir Edward as simply the possessor of fine talents, more particularly that of bringing the same to the best market. We suppose it will be conceded that one of the characteristics of genius is originality—that a man of genius would not write seven hundred pages on topics of universal interest without a single remark which (unless by its pointlessness) would surprise any one in the pages of an ordinary journal. The "vision divine" attributed to Genius is the gift of *seeing* new things, the "faculty divine" that of *saying* them. We have had notable examples of these in the recent republication of the works of one who had

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neither elegance, nor knowledge, nor even common sense, but *had* the genius out of which alone Fame chisels the effigies destined for her Valhalla. When Blake says, "If the fool would persist in his folly, he would become wise," or "The lion never went astray but when he took counsel from the fox," we feel instinctively that he has expressed a thought which Sir E. Bulwer's brain could never have conceived, but which, had his attention been called to it, might have enriched these volumes with another long and plausible dissertation. For example, Sir Edward has some very liberal and sensible remarks on the great merits of Voltaire, the durable utility of the really valuable portion of his writings, and the oblivion with which a kindly natural process has already veiled what had better be forgotten. This is to view the matter in the abstract, and to represent it neither more nor less justly and forcibly than would be natural to nine-tenths of intelligent and unsurprised humanity. But Blake sees the question in the concrete; his daring imagination flies at the fountain-head; he evokes the mighty shade himself, and hears him say, "I blasphemed the Son of God and it shall be forgiven me; but *they* blasphemed the Spirit of God in me, and it shall not be forgiven them!" This indeed is not the language of an ordinary man; and not merely are we struck and dazzled, but a principle has been stated which, rightly followed out, would preclude the necessity for Sir Edward's elegant and, in the present state of things, acceptable disquisition. Ask our author to state his views on the question of tigers, and he will be sure to expatiate in those graceful and just comparisons which a knowledge of the darker side of the nature of man, combined with a knowledge of the nature of tigers, has already suggested to so many proficient in morals and zoology. It would never occur to him to ask with Blake, "Did He who made the lamb make *thee*?" Just as little would the spectacle of a lamb grazing in a meadow remind him, as it does Leopold Schefer, that the peaceful quadruped is to the herbage precisely what the tiger is to him.

Nature is full of compensation, and the writer undistinguished by massive intellect or the sorceries of the imagination often finds a recompense in his easy versatility. This quality may, indeed, accompany the most exalted genius; only then, as all the various parts of a plant are modifications of a single organ, every new development of faculty is an out-growth of a central dominating idea. Goethe and Voltaire are illustrious cases in point. We can find no such ruling principle in Sir Edward's case, unless, indeed, it be that of keeping himself well before the public, and following the fashion, no matter what. Remembering the Protean character of the worthy Baronet's performances in politics and letters, we have read his panegyric on versatility with very considerable amusement; and, if we cannot quite admit his modest hint that he might fairly lay claim to the possession of twenty thousand pounds in intellectual currency, we willingly allow that he understands better than any man how to keep twenty in brisk and gainful circulation. Good sense, culture, urbanity, are the frequent ornaments of his pages; we part from him in kindness, and with the assurance that the most uncompromising criticism can never bring him half so low as the fulsome eulogiums of parasites and the interested applause of the manufacturers of political capital. In conclusion, our readers may be pleased to see the two or three specimens here vouchsafed of the rich store of anecdote which Sir E. B. Lytton's long social experience must have enabled him to accumulate:—

I remember being told by a personage who was both a very popular writer and a very brilliant converser, that the poet Campbell reminded him of Goldsmith—his conversation was so inferior to his fame. I could not deny it; for I had often met Campbell in general society, and his talk had disappointed me. Three days afterwards, Campbell asked me to come and sup with him *tête-à-tête*. I did so. I went at ten o'clock. I stayed till dawn; and

all my recollections of the most sparkling talk I have ever heard in drawing-rooms afford nothing to equal the riotous affluence of wit, of humour, of fancy, of genius, that the great lyrist poured forth in his wondrous monologue. Monologue it was; he had it all to himself.

The most winning player I ever knew was a good, but not a first-rate player, and, playing small stakes, though always the same stakes, he made a very handsome yearly income. He took up whist as a profession instead of the bar, saying ingenuously: "At the bar, if I devoted myself to it, I think I could make the same yearly sum with pains which at whist I make with pleasure. I prefer pleasure to pain when the reward is equal, and I choose whist."

I have heard that, when the late Mr. Kean was performing in some city of the United States, he came to the manager at the end of the third act and said, "I can't go on the stage again, sir, if the Pit keeps its hands in its pockets. Such an audience would extinguish *Ætna*." And the story saith that the manager made his appearance on the stage, and assured the audience that Mr. Kean, having been accustomed to audiences more demonstrative than was habitual to the severer intelligence of an assembly of American citizens, mistook their silent attention for disapprobation; and, in short, that, if they did not applaud as Mr. Kean had been accustomed to be applauded, they could not have the gratification of seeing Mr. Kean act as he had been accustomed to act. Of course the audience—though, no doubt, with an elated sneer at the Britisher's vanity—were too much interested in giving him fair-play to withhold any longer the loud demonstration of their pleasure when he did something to please them. As the fervour of the audience rose, so rose the genius of the actor, and the contagion of their own applause redoubled their enjoyment of the excellence it contributed to create.

Lord Melbourne, who in early life was somewhat predisposed towards cynical views of the world's standard of morality, said, after quitting office, "I am glad to have been First Minister, for I found that men are much better, much more honourable and sincere, than I had supposed them to be when I was in opposition."

In one instance only (we speak with diffidence) we have fancied Sir E. B. Lytton's historical knowledge at fault. He speaks of Julius Cæsar as the author of the famous phrase, "*Aut Cæsar aut nullus*." But surely it could not have originated till Cæsar had proved himself the precise opposite to "*nullus*." Whether used before he acquired his renown, or afterwards, it would have been equally devoid of sense in his mouth. We believe that it was the motto of a very different Cæsar—Cæsar Borgia.

MEMOIRS OF A FEMALE CONVICT.

Memoirs of Jane Cameron, Female Convict. By a Prison Matron. (Hurst and Blackett.)

ONCE or twice a year one rises from reading a book with a sense of real gratitude to the author; and this book is one of these. The story is a very simple one—the life of a Glasgow girl, born of thieves, educated amongst thieves, in due course turning to thieving herself as her natural calling in the world; pickpocket at twelve, convict at thirteen, a mother at fifteen and grown old in debauchery and crime, and sentenced to a long penal servitude at an age when other women are just entering life.

Part I. ends with this sentence. Part II. traces Jennie Cameron's life in prison—first in Glasgow, then in Millbank, lastly at Brixton. Part III. ends the tale, following Jennie Cameron—a contrite woman, bent on living an honest life—to a place which she gets through the agency of "The Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society;" then through a partial relapse, when she runs away from her place and joins an old prison "pal," a Drury-Lane girl of the worst kind, but without falling again into her old sins; and on to a final reconciliation with her noble Christian mistress, who forgives her falling away, and with whom she ultimately emigrates to America, where she dies of consumption, "to the last a good servant and a faithful friend," as that mistress writes of her to the prison-matron (not the authoress), who had first sought, and at last succeeded in saving this poor weak sister. No doubt materials enough for a

sensation-novel might have been obtained out of such a life as this; but the power and beauty of the simple story would have disappeared. We should never have known Jennie Cameron—never have felt that almost highest pleasure which a book can give us of realising the life of, and getting to understand and feel with, one more human being, and of adding him or her, as a distinct personality, to the roll of our friends or acquaintance.

But there are many ways in which this book has a rare value. We do not know any previous work, for instance, which has thrown such light on the life of the professional thief class. If it does not startle us, nothing can. "240,000 juvenile thieves," the authoress asserts, are at this instant in professional training in the cities and towns of the United Kingdom. They are brought up with an *esprit de corps*, which teaches them to despise and avoid intimacy with beggars and prostitutes. Jennie Cameron was thrown for a short time among the Glasgow beggars, but in three weeks grew actually *ashamed* of their manners and habits; she could not stand the taunts of her old friends, the thieves, at her loss of caste in taking to the begging lay. She returned to pure thieving and regained her self-respect. This great grim scientific fact of 240,000 children, and a proportionate number of grown-up people, in our midst, the declared enemies of society, warring openly against it as the Highlanders of old did, with a keen sense of their *right*

"To spoil the spoiler as we may,

And from the robber rend the prey,"

is the ugliest with which we English have to grapple—even our giant pauperism dwindles by the side of it. The difficulty of encountering it in any efficient manner is enough to appal our bravest and most self-sacrificing. We can only be thankful for the knowledge, which we gather also incidentally from this book, that there are not wanting a large and increasing band of men and women, soldiers devoted to this special service in the great battle, and who are gaining in knowledge, and wisdom, and power as the battle becomes more desperate.

As a work of art this book has also high claims. Not only is Jennie Cameron a living person, but we may almost say that there is not a mere lay figure in the book. Few living writers could have brought out so sharply, with as few touches, such characters as Jennie's lovers—"Cannie Jock," the selfish, sneaking, nimble-fingered, vain boy, and Black Barney, the hero of the profession, "an awfu' mon when his blood was oop," as she said, but who "scarcely e'er gied me a wry word." Then there are her friends—the staunch Mary Loggie, who, we hope, is still making her honest carpenter a good wife; the petulant Susan Marsh, the tempter who was so nearly successful; McVee, the mat-maker, and his wife, who gave her an asylum in their wretched room, when her mother used to drive her out to make room for paying lodgers—the man working away at his mats through the long nights, growling at her when she woke and began to speak to him, too poor to afford her anything to eat, brandishing his knife and discoursing to his wife, as she lay listening, on the wickedness of letting a girl run wild in such a place as "the Vennel." Mat-maker McVee, labouring grimly on there night and day, he and his wife, in the midst of that sink of sin and debauchery, protecting to the best of his power the out-cast child, even after her mother had flown at Mrs. McVee, and had beaten her and torn her cap from her head; sold up for rent during a slack in the mat-trade, and disappearing from our ken into the Glasgow streets,—we have not lately met with a human soul more worthy than this, and yet all we know of him is written in four pages. Whether he has ever got his reward in this world we probably shall never know; but we are very sure he will hear of those good deeds of his in a way which will astonish him when he shall stand before the Judge of all the earth, and feel that Eye searching him out which knows no difference between princess and mat-makers.

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The artistic touches in the book, few as they are, and kept rigorously down, are worthy of De Foe. The thieves' holiday, during which Jennie and Black Barney "sank the shop"—just as a barrister in the long vacation leaves no address at chambers, that papers may not reach him—terminating in Black Barney's indignation at Margate when "some d—d thief has been and picked my pocket," is a marvellous little sketch. Or, again, take Jennie's regretful pang, when she makes her last escape from Marsh, at seeing "her best dress hanging behind the door," and feeling that "luck" was still against her, or she should have put it on that morning; or her childlike trust in Miss Weston, the matron, when that lady is warning her of the difficulty of replacing her with her old mistress, "Ye'll think o' somethin' else for me, then, miss; I canna but think God will be on my side this time."

But, after all, the lesson which the history of "Jennie Cameron" reads us on the doctrine of circumstances is perhaps its most valuable function. Here is a girl of anything but strong character, passionate, easily led, the creature of habit, brought up wild, in the most absolute ignorance, and never coming across any but evil influences, with the one exception of McVee the mat-maker, until she is a convict; plunging back again and again into her old courses, and yet delivered at the eleventh hour by clinging to the one slender thread of love which bound her to a prison-matron—that tender plant which had sprung from the seed of one kind sentence, and which the thorns of jealousy and rage were so often on the very point of choking altogether. A weaker will to good probably never cried out from the darkness—certainly darkness more hopeless to the sight of man never surrounded a human soul; but, in spite of all, the needful strength came, and the darkness was rolled back.

We have purposely abstained from doing more than indicating the story, to which we trust that every one of our readers will turn. We trust that the suggestions of the authoress as to the institution of government female reformatories, the necessity of stopping the competition between prison-labour and free-labour, and upon other questions of prison discipline, may reach thousands who would never look into blue-books and treatises, and so pave the way for a sounder system, and a stronger and more effective crusade than ever against the great open sore of professional robbery.

T. H.

LORD HOUGHTON'S POEMS.

Selections from the Poetical Works of Richard Monckton Milnes, Lord Houghton. (Murray.)

ACCORDING to Goethe, the rock on which many young poets of hopeful career were wrecked was nothing else than their premature desire to throw all their energies into some one great work. He was continually warning young poets against this common ambition. His advice was that, instead of scheming great works, young poets should cultivate the habit of seizing the real little incidents of their own lives, and every special little mood of feeling or of reflection with which from day to day their own minds might overbrim, and of throwing off these incidents and moods in brief and natural poetic expression. According to his notion of poetry, the little poems so arising would be, in most cases, more true and precious than laboured epics and other works of length. This plan he had himself pursued, so that, having very early formed the habit of transferring his casual thoughts, pains, and impressions into verse, he had accumulated, as it were, in his store of small poems, a series of poetical records of all things or moments of any consequence in the history of his own spirit. He did not, of course, maintain that large works of imagination were never to be undertaken—in which case his own life would have been in contradiction to his theory; but he declared that his own larger works were also, in some sense, translations or weavings-forth into phantasy of his own

successive experiences, and hence that relations might be found between these works and the series of his short miscellaneous poems. Thus, even in his own case, he seemed to hint, it appeared that the best preparation for large works, when they should be undertaken, would be the habit, already acquired, of throwing off into brief finished forms one's impressions and feelings of all kinds from moment to moment, and the possession, which the exercise of that habit would have secured, of an ample collection of authentic and carefully preserved excerpts from one's own past personality.

Probably, from no express recollection of Goethe's advice, but merely by following his own instinct in literary matters, Mr. Monckton Milnes, now Lord Houghton, has, during his literary life hitherto, been the author chiefly of such short occasional poems as Goethe had in view. In the present compact and neatly-printed selection from his poetical works—including, we should suppose, all the pieces from his previous volumes that Lord Houghton cares to reproduce—there are no fewer than about one hundred and fifty poems in the 284 pages of which the volume consists. They are of various metres and rhythms, and are divided into classes, as "Poems of Sentiment and Reflection," "Palm Leaves," "Occasional Poems," "Memorials of Travels," and "Poems Legendary and Historical." But, though there is reason for this distribution, both in the reference implied to the forms of their previous publication, and in the fact that in some of the poems there is more of actual incident and narrative, and in others more of pure feeling and reflection, all are really of that order of occasional poems, generally so-called, which we have described. And a very interesting collection they are—the thoughts good and rarely commonplace; the feeling gentle, fine, and frequently elevated; the suggestions from scenery and history pleasant and abundant; and the expression finished and graceful, and sometimes happily exquisite. On the whole, perhaps, the reflective mood prevails, so that there runs throughout the volume a vein of quiet and wisemaxim, of cultured and affectionate philosophy. Poem after poem the reader may go through in a quiet evening hour, opening the volume anywhere—which is perhaps the more appropriate plan for such a volume than that of continuous perusal—and feeling a calm and gentle effect from each, even after the words and rhythm have passed. Sometimes, however, from a peculiar happiness in the turn of the thought, or a peculiar success in the expression, there are passages that stir the reader more strongly, and are likely to remain in his memory, and to be quoted afterwards. Such, for example, are these two pieces from a little set entitled "Versicles":—

Amid the factions of the field of life
The Poet held his little neutral ground,
And they who mixed the deepest in the strife
Their evening way to his seclusion found.

There, meeting oft the antagonists of the day,
Who near in mute defiance seemed to stand,
He said what neither would be first to say,
And, having spoken, left them hand in hand.

Eastward roll the orbs of heaven,
Westward tend the thoughts of men:
Let the Poet, nature-driven,
Wander Eastward now and then:

There the calm of life comparing
With his Europe's busy fate,
Let him, gladly homeward faring,
Learn to labour and to wait.

Of the somewhat longer pieces, of which the volume mainly consists, the four following—not because they are the best, but because we have noted them, for one reason or another, among those of most quotable dimensions—may be taken as specimens:—

THE LETTERS OF YOUTH.

Look at the leaves I gather up in trembling,—
Little to see, and sere, and time-bewasted,
But they are other than the tree can bear now,
For they are mine!

Deep as the tumult in an archèd sea-cave,
Out of the Past these antiquated voices
Fall on my heart's ear; I must listen to them,
For they are mine!

Whose is this hand that, wheresoe'er it wanders,
Traces in light words thoughts that come as lightly?
Who was the king of all this soul-domain?
I? Was it mine?

With what a healthful appetite of spirit
Sits he at life's inevitable banquet,
Tasting delight in every thing before him!
Could this be mine?

See! how he twists his coronals of fancy,
Out of all blossoms, knowing not the poison,—
How his young eye is meshed in the enchantment!
And it was mine!

What, is this I?—this miserable complex,
Losing and gaining, only knit together
By the ever-bursting fibres of remembrance,—
What, is this mine?

Surely we are by feeling as by knowing,—
Changing our hearts our being changes with them;
Take them away,—these spectres of my boyhood,
They are not mine.

THE BARREN HILL.

Before my Home, a long straight Hill
Extends its barren bound,
And all who that way travel will
Must travel miles around;
Yet not the loveliest face of earth
To living man can be
A treasury of more precious worth
Than that bare Hill to me.

That Hill-side rose a wall between
This world of ears and eyes
And every shining shifty scene
That fancy forms and dyes:
First Babyhood engaged its use,
To plant a good-child's land,
Where all the streams were orange-juice,
And sugar all the sand.

A playground of unending sward
There blest the growing Boy,
A dream of labourless reward,
Whole holidays of joy;
A book of Nature, whose bright leaves
No other care should need
Than life that happily receives
What he that runs may read.

Nor lacked there skies for onward youth
With wayward will to tinge,
Sweet sunshine overcast by ruth,
And storms of golden fringe;
Nor vales that darkling might evoke
Mysterious fellowship
Of names that still to Fancy woke,
But slumbered on the lip.

The hour when first that Hill I crost
Can yet my memory sting,
The dear self-trust that moment lost
No lore again can bring:
It seemed a foully broken bond
Of Nature and my kind,
That I should find the world beyond
The world I left behind.

But not in vain that Hill-side stood,
On many an after-day,
When with returning steps I wooed
Revival of its sway;
It could not give me Truth where doubt
And sin had ample range,
But it was powerful to shut out
The ill it could not change.

And still performs a sacred part,
To my experienced eye,
This Pisgah which my virgin heart
Ascended but to die;
What was Reality before
In symbol now may live,
Endowed with right to promise more
Than ever it could give.

GOOD NIGHT AND GOOD MORNING.

(A CHILD'S SONG.)

A fair little girl sat under a tree,
Sewing as long as her eyes could see:
Then smoothed her work, and folded it right,
And said, "Dear Work! Good Night, Good Night!"

Such a number of rooks came over her head,
Crying "Caw! Caw!" on their way to bed:
She said, as she watched their curious flight,
"Little black things! Good Night! Good Night!"
The horses neighed, and the oxen lowed:
The sheep's "Bleat! bleat!" came over the road:
All seeming to say, with a quiet delight,
"Good little Girl! Good Night! Good Night!"

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She did not say to the Sun "Good Night!"
Though she saw him there, like a ball of light;
For she knew he had God's time to keep
All over the world, and never could sleep.
The tall pink foxglove bowed his head—
The violets curtsied and went to bed;
And good little Lucy tied up her hair,
And said, on her knees, her favourite prayer.
And while on her pillow she softly lay
She knew nothing more till again it was day:
And all things said to the beautiful sun,
"Good Morning! Good Morning! our work is begun!"

CHINA, 1857.

The little Athens from its pillared hill
Yet reigns o'er spacious tracts of human mind:
Britain, within her narrow bounds confined,
Bends East and West to her sagacious will:
While, recordless alike for good or ill,
China extends her name o'er so much rind
Of the round earth, and only stunts mankind
To mean desires, low acts, and puny skill.
Enormous masses of monotonous life!
Teaching how weak is mere material power
To roll our world toward its heavenly goal:
Teaching how vain is each exhausted hour
That does not mingle in the mental strife,
That does not raise or purify the soul.

There are poems, as we have said, more in the narrative spirit, and exhibiting more of the writer's faculty for stirring incident and action than those we have chosen. May it not be supposed, too, that, as Mr. Monckton Milnes has made this collection of his poems just as he is ceasing to be known under that name, and has moved into the House of Peers as Lord Houghton, he means it to be implied that the cycle of his merely occasional poems is wound up, and that what may farther be expected from him, in the form of poetry, may be on a more extensive scale of composition, whether narrative or not?

ANNIS WARLEIGH'S FORTUNES.

Annis Warleigh's Fortunes. By Holme Lee, author of "Sylvan Holt's Daughter," "Warp and Woof," &c., &c. Three Volumes. (Smith, Elder, & Co.)

WHAT has been in the wind this summer to make our authoresses' heads run on little girls kept out of their inheritances? No sooner have we done with Miss Kavanagh's Queen Mab—who was seemingly buried, but really brought up in quiet Queen Square, while greedy Georges devoured her money—than in comes Holme Lee's Annis Warleigh, who is seemingly buried too, in order that her uncle and aunt's eldest son may inherit her property. Each heroine, also, is betrothed to the boy with whom she is brought up, and each marries the man who has been kindest to her in childhood; but in Annis's case the lover and husband are one, and she is not disappointed and snubbed (except when very young) as Mab is. Each girl, too, is wayward enough, and queen of the house that is her home; but Annis is decidedly the naughtier, and shocks her adopted parents' or aunts' respectable notions more than Mab ever did, even when she got up a pic-nic and gave a party. Who would not sympathize with a correct and pious old lady on seeing the two new black dresses she had bought for her protégée's mourning put into the bath to soak and spoil because that young damsel wasn't, and wouldn't be, sorry for the death of the old man she was told she ought to lament? And then, not only are the old dame and her sister carried off from their quiet village for a trip up the Rhine, but they are asked—they, Protestants of Protestants—to admire a cathedral and think of architecture when there is actually a man, a man on his knees, kissing the feet of a stone image on the wall! and these feet polished, too, by the kisses of thousands of prior idolaters!

But Annis had had her trials before the good spinsters, Delia and Flora Ferrand, adopted her. Her mother died when giving her birth, and her father, Sir Lawrence, unwilling to see her, left her to the care of a nurse, till the little thing one day crept into his love, and then became the delight

of his life, indulged in all her whims, hating spelling-books, loving ponies and dogs, riding cart-horses, singing old ballads, and growing up in her own way. Her uncle Oliver, and his cold crafty wife, Lady Georgiana, think this is not proper training for the heiress to the family estates, and ask to have her with their children and educate her. Sir Lawrence resists till he is ordered abroad after a fever, but is then obliged to surrender his treasure to her aunt's care; and the little wildling is cropped and trimmed to the proper pattern. Soon comes news of the father's death in South America; and the child alone stands between Oliver Warleigh and his brother's estate. He waits for her to die in a fever at Hastings; but, as she won't die, she is proclaimed as dead, and a log buried in a coffin for her, while Lady Georgiana and her tool Mrs. Lupton hand her from her sick bed over to a base parson Gilsland, and his wretched wife, who carry her to a poor quarter of Paris, and keep her locked up in a garret for months.

By this time, cold, neglect, and semi-starvation had done their cruel work on her; dulled her mind, enfeebled her body; made of her a poor, forlorn, haggard little waif that nobody could have recognised as Sir Laurence Warleigh's bonnie wildling. She had forgotten her own ballads, she had forgotten her own name, and answered to that of *Alice*; she had forgotten everything but "Gentle Jesus," and dear papa; and sometimes her head ached so that it felt as if they were drifting and fading out of it too. And, when the April sunshine made its way into her hideous garret, the pitiful face it shone on was a merry little gipsy's no longer, but a spectre of poverty such as haunts the frozen streets of cities and makes unaccustomed strangers start at sight of childhood so little childlike, so little human!

So the Gilslands have leave to settle at Amiens, in England, where they will, keeping with them their niece Alice, as Annis is now called. They come near Linton, in North Devon; and there, ill-treated, Annis runs away from them, and is found, in a storm, by a fine, big, awkward Sinclair Ferrand, of fifteen, and carried home to his maiden, kind-hearted aunts, Delia and Flora, who adopt her—Miss Delia with a view of trying her theory of education on her.

So the kind old lady would set the child in her lap day by day, and tell her stories of children who were remarkable for early piety and genius, but who all came to premature endings; in the hope of winning her heart and her interest through these pretty parables. Alice listened always with wide-eyed composure; but one day, when she had attended in spirit the touching scene of a little angel-girl's death, she said,—

"I don't want to be good, auntie Dee."
"My petkin does not want to be good!" echoed the old lady, greatly surprised and shocked.

"No. Good children all die—I like to stay and play with Sinclair better."

"You darling, and you shall stay and play with Sinclair!" cried the illogical instructress, and kissed her with enthusiasm.

"The little one," as Dolly slyly and irreverently expressed it, soon had the length of her aunts' foot, and wheedled them into letting her have her own way in everything. Of course, she is always riding and playing with Sinclair, and falling in love with him; and he gets her a pony, and treats, and wants Aunt Delia to take her to Astley's.

"Astley's, Sinclair, what is that? Oh, the circus. No, of course, I shall not go; only one remove from a theatre!"

"But Alice must see it; Astley's is quite a place to be seen by people from the country. I wish you would go too. I daresay even Quakers go there—horses cannot be wicked, you know."

"It is not the horses themselves I object to, but the temptations they lead people into—standing on their hind-legs, poor ill-used things, and jumping through hoops. I saw it once myself under a tent that blew down, and only once, but there was no real improvement in it, and the pistols firing off quite frightened me—accidents happen so soon. Never mind Astley's, Alice; you shall go to the Waxworks, instead."

Then the poor aunts see the naughty girl with a pen in her hand very often, and at last, to their great distress, find out that she

"composes! Fays, and elves, and sprites, and all sorts of nonsense!" And poetry too! So Miss Delia picks her out a lover of ballast, a clergyman of fifty-seven, who would make her an admirable husband if she could but believe it when she is seventeen. And elegant Mortimer Warleigh, Lady Georgiana's son, is thrown in her way too by his mother, half-repentant, and wishing by the marriage to atone for her guilt, and secure rightfully the family estate for her son. But Alice is true to her big rescuer, Sinclair, and after a happy tour abroad, she marries him—her father giving her away. For she has never believed in that father's death, has held to the conviction that she should see him, notwithstanding every one's contradiction and arguments; and at last she can cling to him again in her own old home, Gilsland on his death-bed having confessed the conspiracy and crime of her abduction.

Though the novel has great faults of construction, and is much spun out—its plot being allowed to drag, and many unnecessary people and talks being introduced—yet our sketch will show that it has fun in it, and that it is a pleasant readable book. We remember, of course, that skipping is fair play in novel-reading. If any man wants a more darling wife than bright, quaint, loving Annis Warleigh, he is a most exacting and unreasonable being, and should be condemned to die a bachelor.

"MY IMPRISONMENT AT WASHINGTON."

My Imprisonment at Washington. By Mrs. Greenhow. (Bentley.)

THE name of Mrs. Greenhow is probably unfamiliar to English readers. Those persons, however, whose lot brought them to Washington in the days of the Buchanan Presidency will certainly read the volume before us for old acquaintance' sake. During the first season after Lincoln's election, the adventures of Mrs. Greenhow were the gossip of Washington society. How she bothered her gaolers, and drove her keepers well nigh to distraction; how she would neither be pardoned nor released, nor sent into exile; how she quarrelled with her fellow-prisoners, and made the lives of the prison authorities a burden to them,—were stories that were told at every party in the spring of 1862 through the whole of Washington. Let us add that the tone in which Mrs. Greenhow was spoken of was invariably friendly. People, we are afraid, did not attach quite so much importance to her services in the cause of secession as she supposes that they did; and we doubt whether Charles Sumner, or Senator Wade, or Mr. Lincoln, or the most ardent of the Abolitionists—who, she fancies, trembled at her very name—would have had their rest disturbed by the knowledge that Mrs. Greenhow had made good her escape into Dixie's land. Still, she was regarded as a clever, impetuous woman, not unkindly-natured, and also not overwise; and everybody was glad when it was known that she was safely housed in the realms of the Confederacy. Bearing all this in mind, we cannot deal very harshly with "My Imprisonment in Washington." It is a very silly book; but, then, ladies in towering passions very seldom speak, and still less write, sensibly; and even the most ardent friends of the North can hardly be afraid of Mrs. Greenhow doing much damage to their cause. When we find a lady seriously complaining of the indignity which she suffered owing to a negro seating himself on the same bench with herself, "in utter disregard of social distinction," we feel sure she is not likely to excite much sympathy for her wrongs in England.

In truth, we should have left the book unnoticed but for one feature in it. Of all the numerous accusations which have been brought against the Federal Government, none has seemed to us so utterly unfounded and unjust as that of unusual barbarity in the conduct of the war. The mere fact that, in a civil war of unexampled magni-

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tude, not a single life has been taken in cold blood by order of the Federal authorities is in itself a sufficient proof that the Americans are not naturally a bloodthirsty people. It is possible, however, that "My Imprisonment" may be caught at by the friends of the South as an illustration of the Federal tyranny; and therefore we wish to show, out of Mrs. Greenhow's own mouth, what the offence was with which she was charged, and what the penalty was she underwent.

According to her own statement, while living at Washington under the protection of the Federal government, she was in constant communication with the Confederate leaders, "her position giving her remarkable facilities for obtaining information." Just before the battle of Bull Run she contrived to convey news to the enemy with regard to the intended movements of the Federals, which, in her own opinion, decided the battle. In return she received this despatch from the Confederate Adjutant-General:—"Our President and our General direct me to thank you. We rely upon you for further information. The Confederacy owes you a debt." Again, she boasts that the Southern women at Washington "with their siren arts possessed themselves of the schemes of the Lincoln Cabinet, and warned Jeff. Davis of them." One despatch which she sent off, owing to the intelligence thus acquired, "contained duplicate drawings of some fortifications and weak points" in the defences of the capital, "besides information of importance in case our army advanced on Washington." In fact, if we are to believe Mrs. Greenhow, the success of the Confederates is due in no small measure to her communications from the seat of the Federal government. "But for you," said President Davis to her, on her arrival at Richmond, "there would have been no Battle of Bull Run."

We take Mrs. Greenhow at her own estimate. She gave intelligence which cost the Federals a damaging defeat, years of war, and the cost of thousands of lives. And yet she complains because the Federals imprisoned her! In any other country she would have met with a spy's punishment. We do not for one moment doubt the honesty of Mrs. Greenhow's motives; but she chose to play a part which can only be redeemed from shame by the fact that the actor carries his life within his hands. The crime of Charlotte Corday is atoned for by the knowledge that she was prepared to die; but, if the murderess of Marat had whimpered on her capture, and complained of the want of gallantry shown towards her as a woman, she would have become contemptible in the eyes of the world. We would fain believe that this Southern heroine has not as much to answer for as she boasts of—that, at any rate, the responsibility for the fearful bloodshed of Manassas does not rest upon her head. We are inclined to set down a great deal of what she says to self-glorification.

However, in estimating the justice of Mrs. Greenhow's complaint, we must fairly take her own statement of the offence for which she was punished. She was arrested on the 6th of September, 1861, and was kept in confinement at her own house till the 18th of January. She was then removed to the old Capitol prison, detained there till the end of May, and then conveyed with great courtesy to Richmond under a flag of truce. In fact, for having betrayed the Federal plans, and causing thereby the rout of Bull Run, she was kept for nine months in confinement; and the reason, as she admits, of her not being released at a much earlier date, was that General McClellan objected to her discharge till his plans, of which he believed she had cognisance, were fully matured. And, except the fact of confinement, we are at a loss to find what especial cause of complaint Mrs. Greenhow can allege. To listen to her language we should suppose that no Polish woman had ever suffered such enormities as she was subjected to. But, when we try to discover the facts that correspond to these assertions, we are utterly at a loss to find them. One grievance alone of any tangible

kind appears to us to be established. While she was confined to her own dwelling she was closely watched.

Wherever I went a detective followed me. If I wished to lie down, he was seated a few paces from my bed. If I desired to change my dress, or anything else, it was obliged to be done with open doors, and a man peering at me.

Now the reason for this close inspection was that Mrs. Greenhow was suspected to have valuable papers about her person or concealed in her rooms, to which the Federal authorities were naturally anxious she should not have access. In spite, however, of this inspection, which she describes as perpetual, she succeeded at different periods in destroying or removing all the papers in her possession. In other words, the supervision of which she complains was not severe enough to effect its object. That it was not so is not creditable to the vigilance of her gaolers, but it exculpates them from any charge of uncalled-for severity.

Ill-natured people used to assert that the one thing Jefferson Davis could never forgive President Lincoln for was his having released Mrs. Greenhow. Certainly, if she went on at Richmond in the same way as she tells us she did at Washington, the Confederate authorities must have had cause to regret the leniency of their enemies. Her whole narrative is full of the unpleasant remarks she made to her captors—how she brought them to open shame by her repartees, and insulted and irritated them in every way that a woman's invention could suggest. Let us take one example out of many. A few days before her release the superintendent of the prison, Mr. Woods, volunteered, in what she admits was a kind manner, to recover her private papers for her, and only asked her to write a formal note authorizing him to receive them. This is her account of the correspondence that ensued:—

MR. WOOD, SUPERINTENDENT, &c., &c.

Old Capitol Prison, May 21.

SIR,—Believing that the "decree" for my release of your *Revolutionary Commission* will be acted upon some time before the millennium, I therefore most respectfully beg that you will use every exertion to obtain the restoration of my papers, seized some nine months ago, when I was first made a prisoner by order of this *invincible Government*.

Very respectfully,

ROSE O'N. GREENHOW.

To this demand I received the following reply:—

MRS. GREENHOW,—If you will be kind enough to dispense with the God and Liberty style in your *pronunciamento*, and give me a plain *power of attorney* to receipt for your papers, I shall use every power to obtain them; and I shall be happy to restore them to you (the proper person to have them).

W. P. WOOD.

To this I answered Mr. Wood:—

To make reference to God, or Liberty either, behind the bars of this prison, to its *admirable administrator*, would be—knowing *your peculiar views*—in as bad taste as writing in a dead language. As to my papers, they may even remain where they are until I shake off the chains of tyranny.

Very respectfully,

ROSE O'N. GREENHOW.

In order to make the above intelligible, I must state that this man was an infidel—that he derided Christianity, and exercised his astute reasoning powers in the analysis of those mysteries which our dull materialism was not destined to fathom, *as proofs of the absurdity of a faith founded upon theories and traditions so wild and vague as to be rejected when submitted to the test of reason*. He also rejected the evidence of the Bible in support of Christianity, and denied its sacred character.

If poor Mr. Wood ever tries again to do a kind act to a lady-secessionist prisoner, he must have the most forgiving of dispositions.

To any one who knows Washington personally, there is some amusement in the gossiping scandal with which the pages of "My Imprisonment" are filled. Facts and names and dates are misstated with an almost inconceivable inaccuracy; but still the *naïve* vanity and credulity of the narrator give a zest to her personal scandals about Northern

men and women. There is a touch of exquisite humour in her description of her interview with Mrs. Lincoln at some shop in Washington, and in her own pride at the fact that the shopwomen left the President's wife to come and attend to her. But people who have no personal acquaintance with the characters of whom she writes will hardly care to learn how long it is since Mr. Seward acquired the knowledge that a white tie was the proper dress for an evening party, or to read the similar pieces of tittle-tattle which Mrs. Greenhow delights to detail.

PROFESSOR BAIN'S ENGLISH GRAMMAR.

An English Grammar. By Alexander Bain, M.A., Professor of Logic in the University of Aberdeen. (Longman & Co.)

MANY as are the manuals of English Grammar already existing, a manual on this subject by a writer of such high philosophical reputation as Professor Bain—well-known as the author of two systematic treatises on Psychology, entitled "The Senses and the Intellect" and "The Emotions and the Will," and of a third cognate treatise "On the Study of Character"—is sure to be examined with interest. The result of such an examination, we think, will be a most favourable impression as to the merits of the Grammar. We should not wonder, indeed, if the little work were to supersede many of the same sort now in use, and to be largely adopted in schools and English classes in colleges. For this it is peculiarly well fitted by its small size and its eminently practical character. While, as might have been expected from Mr. Bain, scientific precision is studied in the arrangement, and there is a continuous reduction throughout of rules and usages of speech to the *reasons* on which they are founded, Mr. Bain's aim seems to have been to furnish a Grammar that should be practically useful to young men studying the mechanism of the English language with a view to speaking and writing it correctly themselves. In certain portions of the manual there is a special adaptation of the directions and examples to the wants of young Scotchmen—of whose difficulties and besetting errors in phraseology Mr. Bain has had peculiar experience; but, in the main, the work is calculated for service anywhere. It is not, and does not profess to be, a work of the higher Philology; nor, in respect of information as to the antiquities and history of the English Language, does it compete in the least with the works of Latham, Craik, and Marsh, or even with some smaller existing compilations. It is an English Grammar in the old and stricter sense as implying a textbook on the present structure and usage of the English tongue—with particles of historical and general philological information introduced when necessary, and frequently in the form of quotations from recognised authorities in these departments. It differs from most preceding manuals of the kind chiefly in its logical clearness and carefulness, and also perhaps in the aptness and interesting nature of the examples with which its statements and rules are illustrated.

Mr. Bain traverses the three parts of Grammar known as ORTHOGRAPHY AND ORTHOEPY (here included more simply under the heading THE ALPHABET, pp. 1—3), ETYMOLOGY (pp. 4—147), and SYNTAX (pp. 148—206); and he refrains from PROSODY, as hardly properly belonging to Grammar, but lying at the junction between Grammar and Rhetoric. We may note a few points in each of the three divisions of the Grammar.

Under the head of THE ALPHABET is given an account of a Vowel Scheme, for which the author acknowledges himself indebted to Dr. Clark, late Professor of Chemistry in Aberdeen, whose grammatical researches, privately pursued some years ago for his own pastime rather than for the purposes of publication, have been important. Mr. Bain believes, not only in this particular. This Vowel Scheme Mr. Bain adopts as very ingenious, and as supplying a means of phonic

spelling, should such be wanted, involving the least possible alteration of the existing spelling.

ETYMOLOGY is treated under the three sub-headings of *The Parts of Speech* (or *Classification of Words*), *Inflection*, and *Derivation*. (1) A short account of the Sentence prepares the way for the Definition of the Parts of Speech—a matter in which Mr. Bain has introduced a few changes, tending to greater exactness of meaning. The discrimination of the Noun and its kinds is particularly good, and, in part, new; under the Pronoun are noticed certain difficulties in the use of “it,” and of the relatives “who,” “which” and “that” in composition, to which Mr. Bain afterwards reverts, in the Syntax, for the purpose of a larger treatment; and in the handling of the other parts of speech, the chief points of note seem to be, *first*, the care taken to explain such important words as the definite article “the,” the adverb “so,” the preposition “of,” and the conjunction “but,” by concentrating the scattered meanings round what seems to be the primitive idea, and, *secondly*, the attempted completeness of the classification of prepositions and conjunctions. (2) The forty-seven pages devoted to *Inflection* are a tolerably complete compilation from the fullest Grammars of the minutiae of genders, plurals, cases, &c. Especial pains seem to have been taken with the Verb; and, for the behoof more particularly of Scotchmen and Irishmen, there is a thickly-illustrated lecture of six or seven pages on those terrible revealers of non-Anglican birth “shall” and “will” and “should” and “would.” (3) The portion of the manual given to *Derivation* is very full—the matter here, too, being, of course, compiled from other books, but the method, in part at least, the writer’s own. So clearly are the sources of our words indicated, and in representative masses so proportioned to the relative degrees of importance of the several sources, that, with allowance for slips and deficiencies, these twenty-eight pages of text, taken along with eight pages of Appendix, at the end, are an excellent little reduction of the English Dictionary. The usual matter on Prefixes and Suffixes is given with tolerable fulness.

The SYNTAX is preceded by an account of the analysis of sentences; and, much of what is usually included under Syntax having already been disposed of under the head of Etymology, the author is at liberty to apply himself chiefly to the knotty points—i.e., to those points on which error is practically most frequent, or respecting which there is doubt, difficulty, or varied usage. Here we have discussions of such phrases as “It is me,” “Who did you give it to?” and of the positions of “only,” “not only,” and the like in sentences. Perhaps the most interesting and novel portion of the Syntax, however, is that where Mr. Bain reverts to the pronouns “it” and “who,” “which” and “that” (pp. 188–194). More particularly as to the proper distinction between the relative “who” or “which,” and the other relative “that”—now used by most writers indifferently, or for mere reasons of instructive convenience at the moment—he propounds a doctrine that, if true, would convict almost all our recent writers of inaccuracy. In his Preface, where he calls attention to this doctrine, he professes to have derived it from the same friend, Dr. Clark, to whom, as we have already mentioned, he acknowledges other obligations. As to the logical exactness of the distinction so made between “who” and “that,” and as to the practicability of maintaining the distinction if there were a universal agreement to do so, there can be little doubt; but we are far from sure that it could be made out historically that the distinction was ever strictly observed by our greatest writers (certainly it was not by Shakespeare), and we are even less sure of the chance of any such acceptance of the doctrine now-a-days as would make the existing practice corrigible by it. But the little dissertation will be read with profit, and may affect the practice of

some. Respecting a list of Scotticisms which Mr. Bain has appended to his Syntax for the benefit of his more immediate pupils, we will only say that, while not a few are Scotticisms in the sense of being wrong, or not being allowable by the English standard, others are perfectly good expressions, either already familiar to Englishmen, or such that, even on a first hearing, Englishmen would accept them as quite correct for the turns of thought they render.

BISHOP THIRLWALL'S CHARGE.

A Charge delivered to the Clergy of the Diocese of St. David's, by Connop Thirlwall, D.D., Bishop of St. David's, at his Eighth Visitation, October 1863. (Rivingtons.)

THE form in which the Bishop of St. David's has cast his Charge is that of a justification of the course which he has pursued as a Bishop with regard to “Essays and Reviews” and Bishop Colenso's work on the Pentateuch. It was a surprise to many that Bishop Thirlwall should have joined in the general Episcopal censure on the former volume. It was thought that, besides perceiving the injustice and the impolicy of such a measure, he would have been restrained from taking part in it by his own liberal opinions on Biblical questions. On the other hand, the Bishop of St. David's has refused to concur in the proceedings of the greater number of the Bishops with reference to Bishop Colenso's book. On both grounds he has been attacked; and in this Charge he vindicates himself and defends his own consistency. The discourse is not only, as it was sure to be, powerful and temperate, but it is also straightforward and courageous in a very remarkable degree.

The Bishop adheres decidedly to his censure of the volume of “Essays and Reviews;” and his condemnation will tell with all the more weight from the manifest desire to be just which he shows in his account of this work. His judgment is based upon the general tendency of particular Essays and of the entire volume. He carefully distinguishes between a theological warning and a judicial sentence, between condemning the book and expelling the authors from the Church. He does not say that this proposition or that might not be allowably stated by a clergyman of the Church of England; but he believes that the tendency of the most important Essays is adverse to the frank acknowledgment of a supernatural Revelation. It is clear that, in coming to this conclusion, he has been most impressed by Professor Baden Powell's Essay on Miracles. Now it seems to be undeniable that, to the ordinary mind, this Essay is one of two things; it is either a downright profession of an unbelief outrageously inconsistent with the standing of a Churchman and a Christian, or it is a mystery and a riddle. If it had been published anonymously there would have been no injustice in saying of it, “This is worse than Hume; after proving that miracles are incredible, to say that they belong to the region of ‘faith’ is but a mockery which adds insult to injury.” But then the Essay was not published anonymously. It was the open utterance of a man who was even zealous as a Christian and a clergyman, a man whom the Bishop of St. David's characterizes as “a sincere lover of truth, a clear-headed thinker, and a practised writer.” It is therefore next to impossible that the Essay should have meant the only thing which it appears to mean. The Bishop of St. David's says that the Essay must be judged from itself, but he admits that the conclusions to be drawn from it might have been modified if there had been any “corrective” amongst the other contributions to the volume. Such a corrective he does not find. But surely, reading the Essay as the work of an English clergyman and “a sincere lover of truth,” who had not renounced or even discontinued his ministrations in the English Church, we are bound to place by the side of its most questionable reasonings the confession, “I believe in Jesus Christ who rose again the third day

from the dead.” The latter is a much simpler statement than any proposition which can be framed about the invariableness of the natural course of things; and Professor Powell's belief was at least as much pledged to the one as to the other.

In Professor Powell's case the remembrance of the Christian confession which he was known to make publicly and constantly only leaves his Essay an insoluble riddle, for the propounding of which, on so important and delicate a question, he himself and the editor of the volume have a serious responsibility to bear. But the same recollection modifies with a more important effect some of the other Essays. Indeed the clerical character of the writers is not quite fairly used. Bishop Thirlwall repeats what has been said before as to the peculiar importance reflected on the volume by the fact that the writers were eminent clergymen, and men of high repute. “It is only the position of the writers,” it is said, “which make their views worthy of notice.” Surely it is just to say also, “This recognised position of the writers binds you not to understand their statements in a sense plainly repugnant to the Creeds of the Church, if there is any other conceivable alternative. If there is none, you are still bound to suppose that, to the author's own mind, his words do not bear this sense.” It makes a great difference to the Essays of Dr. Williams and Mr. Wilson whether they are read with this recollection or as if they were anonymous writings. No writer of any courage will feel himself bound to qualify his words with “correctives” which a candid reader may supply for himself if he will. At the same time this Charge makes one feel more than ever how ill-judged and unfortunate was the publication of a volume so liable to be misunderstood, containing so much crude and dangerous-looking speculation, with so little of frank expression of Christian belief to reassure the reader. Bishop Thirlwall shows plainly that he still holds the most liberal principles of Biblical criticism, and is tolerant of great diversities of opinion; but he demands that English clergymen, writing upon matters that belong to the very foundations of the faith, should not write so as to insinuate in the mind of a dispassionate reader a suspicion whether or not they honestly believe the main articles of the Creeds. And, without imputing unbelief to the writers themselves, the Bishop tells his clergy that, in his judgment, the tendency of the leading speculations of this volume is towards the absolute rejection of Revelation.

It would almost seem as if the Bishop of St. David's was glad of an opportunity of counteracting the impression made by his treatment of “Essays and Reviews,” when the case of Bishop Colenso's book came on to be dealt with. Until the delivery of this Charge he had abstained from pronouncing publicly upon the Bishop of Natal's Biblical theories; and now, although he thinks lightly of the Bishop's qualifications as a historical critic, and condemns his work as containing “passages which, however they may admit of a different explanation, appear in their most obvious sense irreconcilable with the admission of a supernatural revelation,”—he has devoted his chief pains to a merciless destruction of the Convocation Report on Bishop Colenso, and to the vindication of as wide a liberty in the study of the Bible as Bishop Colenso himself has claimed. On some important points he boldly defends the Bishop of Natal, as in distinguishing between “God's Word” in the Bible and the Bible itself. “Among the numerous passages of the New Testament,” observes Bishop Thirlwall, “in which the phrase *the Word of God* occurs, there is not one in which it signifies the Bible, or in which that word could be substituted for it without manifest absurdity.” Again, as to the Mosaic authorship of the Pentateuch, Bishop Thirlwall denies that we are bound to the traditional notion by any sufficiently express words of our Lord, or by any declaration of the Church. He protests with scornful confidence against the assertion of the Committee of Convocation that

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to call any part of the Bible "unhistorical" is a liberty forbidden by the Church. And, on the serious question of our Lord's Divine knowledge, the Bishop shows that Jeremy Taylor inclined to the same view as that which the Bishop of Natal has adopted, and that the Committee had no right whatever to condemn such a view as a grave error.

The general conclusions of the Bishop are given with remarkable clearness and firmness. They are well worth pondering. He first exhorts us to acquiesce in inevitable ignorance upon many subjects, and amongst these on a multitude of questions relating to the Sacred History. Let us give his next reflection in his own words:—

Another thought, which may well be brought home to our minds by the controversies of the day, is that we have greater need than ever to distinguish between things which do, and things which do not, concern our Christian faith and hope. A great part of the events related in the Old Testament has no more apparent connexion with our religion than those of Greek and Roman history. . . . The numbers, migrations, wars, battles, conquests, and reverses of Israel have nothing in common with the teaching of Christ, with the way of salvation, with the fruits of the Spirit. They belong to a totally different order of subjects. They are not to be confounded with the spiritual revelation contained in the Old Testament, much less with that fulness of grace and truth which came by Jesus Christ. Whatever knowledge we may obtain of them is, in a religious point of view, a matter of absolute indifference to us; and, if they were placed on a level with the sacred truths of the Gospel, they would gain nothing in intrinsic dignity, but would only degrade that with which they are thus associated.

We must add a few sentences of the beautiful closing paragraph of the Charge:—

A single word more. That which now unhappily disquiets many will turn to your profit, if it should lead you to take a firmer hold on the centre of your faith and hope; to draw closer to Christ Himself, and to seek in a more intimate and practical communion with Him that light and life which He alone can impart. If the historical and critical questions which have lately been brought anew under discussion were capable of a solution which would leave no room for doubt, it would not bring you one step the nearer, or at all help you to find your way to Him. At the best it could yield only an intellectual satisfaction, perhaps at the risk of diverting your attention from that which alone is needful.

We may be disposed to think that the Bishop of St. David's distinguishes throughout too sharply between spiritual revelation and history, between "natural and revealed religion," "between our Lord's teaching which was independent of His Person, and that which related to His own superhuman character." The idea of Life, and of revelation through Life, Divine and human, combines these separated elements in one. But we cannot be too thankful to the Bishop for maintaining so unflinchingly the absolute supremacy of vital and central truth.

J. LI. D.

NOTICES.

Essais de Politique et de Littérature. Par M. Prevost-Paradol. Troisième Série. (Paris: Michel Lévy, frères.)—M. PREVOST-PARADOL is one of the few writers who have attained to eminence and popularity since the beginning of the Emperor's reign. His leading articles and critiques have for some five or six years constituted a leading feature in the *Journal des Débats*. Like its predecessors, this volume of his reprinted essays consists of two portions—one political and the other literary. But, though the latter is much the smaller of the two, it is not exclusively taken up with literary matters, for M. Prevost-Paradol's mind is cast in such a political mould that he regards almost every subject in a political light. His views are very English, and he is never weary of holding up our institutions to the admiration of his fellow-countrymen. He abominates centralization, openly sighs for a parliamentary government, and advocates many useful and necessary reforms in the administration of justice. His style is pure and clear, seldom if ever rising to eloquence, but never turgid or emphatic. It be-

longs rather to the old classical than to the modern sensational school of French. The political pleases us more than the literary part of the volume. It shows more thought, and thought of a kind which is much needed in France. The literary essays are rather thin and superficial—so much so, indeed, that we wonder M. Prevost-Paradol should have thought it worth while to reprint them in a permanent shape.

The Dano-German Conflict and Lord Russell's Proposals of Mediation. (Longman, Green, & Co. Pp. 91.)—THE writer of this pamphlet thinks that it would be desirable, in the event of Lord Russell's proposals of 1862 being found impracticable, to contemplate the advantages to the equilibrium of Europe of a Scandinavian union of Norway, Sweden, and Denmark. At the same time, however, he regards Lord Russell's bases of mediation, as proposed in the despatch of September 1862, as the only real hold which the protracted negotiations have given us upon the German diet. The diet, in its corporate capacity, accepted those proposals in July last as the basis on which it was ready to come to a definite arrangement with Denmark; and the writer regards this as "the only solid piece of ground in the vast quagmire of the Schleswig-Holstein question." Those "able writers who, with so much eloquence, but so little knowledge, have pleaded the cause of Denmark in England, would render her a far greater service," he thinks, "than any she has yet received at their hands, if, instead of indiscriminately approving all she does, they would urge upon the Danish people the suicidal folly of attempting to thrust their nationality upon a people as jealous of their liberty, as proud of their blood, and as doggedly tenacious of their rights as themselves, and on Danish statesmen that in diplomacy, as in everything else, honesty is the best policy."

The Mortons of Bardon. A Lancashire Tale. Three Volumes. (Newby.)—WALTER MORTON is a young radical manufacturer, whose conservative uncle John has managed his mill during his minority. Walter stands for the borough, and wins the election by three votes, notwithstanding his uncle's opposition. He also proposes to an orphan girl supposed to have £20,000, Miss Mary Graham, and is accepted thus:—"Mr. Morton," said she, in tremulous but measured words, "this is so sudden, so dreadful, I know not what to say! but I will speak the truth—your love is all I care for; you have mine!" But Miss Graham has a guardian, Dr. Trimley, who wastes her fortune in a railway speculation, the Bardon and Burton Atmospheric, and also involves John Morton in his threatened ruin. Whereupon this uncle John, concealing the fact that Walter's father had repaid him the money he had advanced to build the mill and property Walter owns, puts in force the satisfied mortgages and bill of sale, and Walter has to resign his place in the House of Commons, and emigrate to Australia. From that colony he is, however, recalled by his faithful servant, Job Fitton—who has brought his uncle to repentance—and lands to find that uncle dead, himself the possessor of all his property, and Mary Graham ready to come from Leighton Rectory to share his home with him henceforth. Job's sister Sally is the quaintest character in the book. Her taking away the little tailor's breeches and locking him in, to prevent his being carried off to vote by the blues, was quite the right course to take.

Words from the Gospels. A Second Selection of Sermons preached in the Parish Church of Doncaster. By Charles John Vaughan, D.D. (London and Cambridge: Macmillan & Co.)—A NEW volume of sermons by Dr. Vaughan does not need to be described at any length. The title of this one—although we do not know whether we are to understand by the "Words" the sermons or the texts—sufficiently indicates that the sermons are upon subjects taken from the Gospels. They are entitled to the success which Dr. Vaughan can now command. A critic in a Dissenting Review has recently expressed an amusing jealousy of this success. He admits Dr. Vaughan's merits and orthodoxy, but complains that there are many volumes of Dissenting Sermons equally good which are, nevertheless, quite unable to obtain a circulation. The comparison is ludicrous enough, but it indicates, what is true, that Dr. Vaughan's writings are not marked by original speculation, by rapid or flowery eloquence, or by any of the qualities which startle the eye or the ear. They are the utterances of a ripe scholar, an acute but timid thinker, and a devout practical Christian. Lucid, serious, and spiritual, they are pervaded by a somewhat melancholy tone—a character that is deepened by the symptoms of a self-defensive and

sometimes querulous struggle to be orthodox with the orthodoxy of the age.

History of the Christian Church, from the Reformation to the Present Time. From the German of J. H. Kurtz, D.D. (Edinburgh: Clark.)—DR. KURTZ's name has recently become known to the English public through the frequent appeals to his "History of the Old Covenant" in the Colenso controversy. The present work is a *multum in parvo*, executed with knowledge and ability, and possessing both the advantages and disadvantages of such a composition. It is a kind of index to universal ecclesiastical history for nearly three centuries and a half, useful for reference, amusing to dip into, but not suited for continuous reading. An attempt to read it through would be the more likely to produce indigestion in the English reader from the retention of the German idiom in the translation. It would appear that the translation has been executed by a German. At any rate, it reads rather oddly. For example—"Charles Ullmann, now prelate of Karlsruhe, a noble, lovely, ironical, and mild person, sits between all the rocks and sand-bars with his equilibrium-theology." "Equally isolated, but nevertheless ranking among the greatest of the theologians of the present day, is J. Tob. Beck. He did not proceed from Schleiermacher's or from any other school of theologians or philosophers; but, a Würtemberger by birth, constitution, and education, here presents in his spirited theosophico-realistic, biblico-purist theology, which also ignores Church and dogma history, together with the confession, a blooming-period of specifically Würtemberger Christianity in scientific form" (pp. 364, 365). There seems to be a good deal of the salt of sarcasm in Professor Kurtz's short summaries or references—as, e. g., in his account of the Evangelical Alliance at Berlin; but it is not always easy to judge whether we are tasting irony in the author or only quaintness in the translation.

On Life and Death. By W. S. Savory, F.R.S. (Smith, Elder, & Co.)—IN four lectures Mr. Savory briefly narrates the views at present accepted by physiologists regarding the nature of life and death. After discussing the means by which a classification of the animal kingdom may be established, he examines the several features which characterize life. We are then made acquainted with the various external agents essential to the maintenance of life; and, in the concluding lecture, death is studied in its various aspects. Much might be written in praise of this little volume; but nothing less than a repetition of the lectures would suffice for their elucidation. Their perusal serves to indicate the vast field of inquiry open to physiologists. They at least have no reason to lament the absence of a wide scope for their energies. This volume likewise suggests that other tools than the microscope and the anatomist's scalpel are requisite to the interpretation of much that is now obscure. The laboratory and the wide region of physics will, although hitherto more or less eluded, be found to be absolutely indispensable. Mr. Savory's work may be regarded as a correct and concise *résumé* of the result of the most recent labours relative to the questions, "What constitutes Life? what Death?"

The Sussex Tracts for Christmas. The Twenty-fifth Thousand. (Macintosh.)—THESE tracts, which have become so popular, treat of such subjects as the following:—"Sunday," "Church and State," "A Warning to Churchmen," "Inconsistency and Apathy," "Facts on the Bicentenary Movement," "The Episcopate," "The Political Progress of Romanism in England," &c., &c. The tracts are all short, but are interesting.

MAGAZINES AND SERIALS.

IN the *Coruhill* we have continuations of the three stories, "The Small House at Allington," "Cousin Phillis," and "Margaret Denzil's History." There are one or two light narrative sketches besides, and also some excellent general papers, including a little dissertation "On the Stage" by Frances Anne Kemble, interesting as giving that lady's views of the difference between the dramatic faculty and the theatrical, as well as some anecdotes and recollections of her family. "Life in a Country House" is the title of an amusing paper telling how people pass their time, or ought to pass their time, in those great country-houses which are full of guests from September to January every year. But, on opening the magazine, most readers will look first at the Poet Laureate's "Attempts at Classic Metres in Quantity." Although one of these attempts—an ode on Milton in Horatian *Alcaics*—is very beautiful, the vote of the Laureate, if we may judge from

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his tone in the other two attempts—one in Hexameters and Pentameters, and the other in Hendecasyllabics—is dead against the introduction of classic metres into English. Thus:—

TRANSLATIONS OF HOMER.

HEXAMETERS AND PENTAMETERS.

These lame hexameters the strong-wing'd music of Homer!
No—but a most burlesque barbarous experiment.
When was a harsher sound ever heard, ye Muses, in
England?

When did a frog coarser croak upon our Helicon?
Hexameters no worse than daring Germany gave us,
Barbarous experiment, barbarous hexameters!

Now, certainly, hexameters and pentameters of this kind—i.e., constructed on the principle of quantity transferred into English—never will do. But that there may be excellent and beautiful English hexameters on the laxer principle of accent, and that the taste for such may be cultivated, and is increasing, we have no doubt whatever. No one could ennoble this kind of hexameter verse, if he were to try it, more rapidly than Mr. Tennyson himself. Indeed, the long new metre used by him in great portions of his "Maud" is a modification of the hexameter; and how beautiful a measure it is!

In *Macmillan* Mr. Henry Kingsley gives the second instalment of his new story, "The Hillyars and the Burtons," alternating, as in the first part, between England and Australia. The story called "A Son of the Soil" is also continued—the hero, Colin, getting as far as Glasgow College, where he has strange adventures and forms a strange friendship. Mrs. Gaskell contributes a brief but touching memoir of a young American, Robert Gould Shaw, the first colonel of a negro regiment among the Federalists, and who, having been killed in battle, was "buried with his niggers" by the Confederates. There is "A Word More about Spinoza" by Mr. Matthew Arnold, containing a very memorable exposition of those ideas of Spinoza which recommended him so much to Goethe; and Mr. Hughes, in a short paper called "The Last Voice from the Crimea," tells of the past mismanagement and of the present better management of the British army. The "Competition Wallah's" Letter in this number, entitled "About Calcutta and Its Climate: with Serious Inferences," will be read with special interest, not only on account of the wit and dashing humour with which it abounds no less than its predecessors, but also on account of its bearing on a subject which Lord Elgin's death, or reported death, is bringing prominently before the public mind—the effects of the Indian climate on the European constitution, and the possibility of avoiding some of those effects by transferring the capital of our Indian Empire from Calcutta to some other city. The "Wallah" recommends Jubulpore, as uniting all the conditions desirable for the new official capital of India.

THIS month *Blackwood* opens with a rather long, but very beautiful poem called "The Boatman," by Pisistratus Caxton. The writer of the paper on "The Wigtown Martyrs" takes the part of Mr. Napier as opposed to that of Principal Tulloch, and thinks that the former "has made out his case—that he has satisfactorily established that there is no reason whatever for believing that these women ever were drowned at all." "Tyndall on Heat" is an excellent exposition of the professor's lectures on "Heat considered as a Mode of Motion." "The Navies of England and France from a French point of view" ought to be read by all Englishmen, were it only that they might become aware of the fact that there are two sides to the question. "Personal Identities" is slight, but amusing. "Tony Butler" reaches the third part, and "The Perpetual Curate" part seven. The number closes with a long and interesting review of "Books on the American War."

The continuations in the *Victoria* are—Mr. Nassau W. Senior's "Journal kept in Egypt," and "Lindisfarne Chase," which reaches the twenty-fourth chapter, by T. A. Trollope. "Shall we Conquer China?" is full of interest, and proves how well acquainted its author, Mr. Meredith Townsend, is with his subject. His conclusion on so important, and, to all China merchants, so absorbing a question is that we ought to "guard the treaty ports until order has been restored, outlaw every Englishman who takes service in China without the written permission of the Embassy, and negotiate with the government for the one bit of soil which would enable us to influence China, without being dragged into incessant extensions of territory—the island of Chusan." "Froude's Reign of Elizabeth" is a paper favourable to the historian, and "La Grande Chartreuse and the Waldensian Valleys of Piedmont" are treated very interestingly and ably.

In *Temple Bar* we have a good exposition of Renan's "Vie de Jésus," but no theological criticism. Mr. Sala's article on "The Streets of the World"—in the present paper he treats of La Canebière in Marseilles—is introduced by a few explanatory and kindly lines by Edmund Yates, who has succeeded to the editorship of *Temple Bar*. "John Marchmont's Legacy" and "The Trials of the Tredgolds" are continued.

The *Eclectic Review* has articles on "Dante," "Laurence Bloomfield in Ireland," "John Howe," "The Thirteenth Chapter of Matthew and its Interpreters," and "Vaughan's Revolutions of England."—In the *St. James's* we have readable articles on "The Spoor," or trail, by Captain A. W. Drayson, R.A., and on "The Finite and Infinite," by J. Scofield, M.B., with the usual serial tales.—The *Churchman's Family Magazine* has an excellent paper on "Christmas Carols," and another on "Disguises of Animals." The illustrations continue excellent. The same remark applies to *Good Words*, which seems to spare no expense in securing high-class artists. "The Labourers in the Vineyard" is from the pencil of J. E. Millais, and illustrates Dr. Guthrie's "Parables read in the Light of the Present Day." The editor continues his "Reminiscences of a Highland Parish," and Mr. Anthony Trollope tells a Christmas story of "The Two Generals," while Mr. J. M. Ludlow writes earnestly on "American Slavery."—The *Sixpenny* requires no special notice.

Christian Work throughout the World has reached part ten, and *Our Own Fireside* part three.—From Mr. Beeton we have received *Beeton's Christmas Annual*, in which the whole mystery of "Kiddle-a-Wink," which has so long puzzled us on dead walls, is fully explained; from Messrs. Jackson, Walford, and Hodder part three of *The Child's Commentator*; and from Messrs. W. and R. Chambers part twenty-three of *The Book of Days*, and the November number of *Chambers's Journal*.—From Messrs. Longman & Co. we have number four of the *Alpine Journal*, edited by H. B. George, M.A.; and from Messrs. J. H. & J. Parker we have *The Unity of the Saints the Evidence of the Gospel: a Sermon preached before the University of Oxford on All Saints' Day, 1863*, by George Moberly, D.C.L., Head Master of Winchester College.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE WEEK.

"ABLE TO SAVE," or, Encouragements to Patient Waiting. By the Author of "The Pathway of Promise." Twelfth Thousand. Fcap. 8vo., pp. xi—280. *Strahan*. 2s. 6d.

ADAM (William). Inquiry into the Theories of History, with special reference to the Principles of the Positive Philosophy. Second Edition. 8vo., pp. v—441. *Allen*. 15s.

ARABIAN NIGHTS' ENTERTAINMENTS (The). Arranged for the perusal of Youthful Readers. By the Hon. Mrs. Sugden. With Illustrations. Cr. 8vo., pp. vii—501. *Whittaker*. 5s.

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF AN ENGLISH DETECTIVE. By "Waters." Two Volumes. Post 8vo., pp. 631. *J. Maxwell*. 21s.

BALLANTYNE (R. M.). Gascoyne, the Sandal-Wood Trader: a Tale of the Pacific. With Illustrations. Fcap. 8vo., pp. 440. *Nisbet*. 5s.

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CALIXTUS. German Theology during the Thirty Years' War. The Life and Correspondence of George Calixtus, Lutheran Abbot of Königsutter, and Professor Primarius in the University of Helmstadt. By the Rev. W. C. Dowling, M.A. Post 8vo., pp. xii—350. *J. H. & J. Parker*. 8s. 6d.

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MISCELLANEA.

WE regret to record the death of Mr. David Nutt, the eminent bookseller of 270, Strand, and of College Street, Winchester, on Saturday the 28th ult., in his fifty-fourth year. Mr. Nutt was educated at Merchant Taylors' School, which, however, he left at an early age, on a vacancy occurring in the counting-house of a large mercantile firm in the City. Here he remained for several years, working his way up from junior clerk to a position of much responsibility, during which time he acquired those business habits which secured his success in after life, when he embarked in the bookselling trade on his own account. Mr. Moberly, the senior partner of the firm, introduced Mr. Nutt to the late Mr. Asher, the eminent bibliographer, and founder of the house of Asher & Co. of Berlin, who had just found it requisite to quit St. Petersburg for political reasons, and who, having a large stock of valuable books, required an agent in London for its disposal. At first Mr. Nutt occupied only his spare time, chiefly of an evening, in distributing catalogues and attending to orders received; and during that period many works of great rarity passed through his agency into our national collection in the British Museum, and into the libraries at Oxford, and at Cambridge, besides others which found their way into those of Lord Spencer, Mr. Grenville, and other well-known book collectors. Soon, however, it became necessary that he should

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either give up his clerkship or his agency. His friend Mr. Moberly would not allow him to hesitate which to select; and to the advice of that gentleman on that occasion Mr. Nutt always looked back with gratitude, as having fixed the starting-point of his successful career in life. A love of books, more particularly of old and rare books, had become a kind of second nature to Mr. Nutt, which never left him up to the time of his death. His stock of books relating to Church and General History—including such works as the "Recueil des Historiens des Gaules et de la France," by Bouquet and the Benedictines of St. Maur, the "Monumenta Germaniæ Historica" of Pertz, our own various collections of Monkish Historians, the large collections of the Councils by Labbe, Cossart, Harduin, Colet, and Mansi, the noble and grand editions of the Fathers of the Church by the Benedictines—is one of the finest ever brought together. Of this stock and his collection of Foreign Theology generally, he printed an octavo catalogue of 700 pages, which is quoted as an authority frequently by Mons. Brunet in his new edition of the "Manuel du Libraire, et de l'Amateur des Livres," and by Dr. Græse in his "Trésor des Livres Rares." Upon the death of the late Mr. Robbins of Winchester, Mr. Nutt, at the suggestion of the head-master, Dr. Moberly, purchased the goodwill of the Winchester school-business from his widow; since which time his connexion with Wykeham's College as its bookseller and publisher has been no less satisfactory to the Warden, Fellows, and Masters than to himself—the care of the valuable library being in some measure entrusted to him, and to his representative, Mr. Joseph Wells, under whose able management the Winchester business has been mainly conducted. But it is not as a successful merchant and publisher alone that Mr. Nutt will long be missed from among us. His was a large heart; and, combining the highest integrity with the noblest generosity, he was ever foremost to aid those whom he thought deserving, both with counsel and purse—often finding remunerative employment and kindly affording sympathy to relieve the sting of disappointment to some young aspirant to literary fame, and never, in his more prosperous career, forgetting a favour received in earlier days. His friendships were sound and lasting; he was slow to take offence, and ever anxious to be reconciled to those with whom an estrangement had arisen. He will long be missed by a large circle of sincere friends, such as few men succeed in attaching to themselves. Mr. Nutt was twice married. His first wife was a Miss Parker of Oxford, by whom he leaves a daughter. His widow is the granddaughter of the late Mr. Miller of Albemarle Street, the predecessor of the late Mr. Murray. By her he leaves a youthful family to mourn his loss.

REFORMERS of Cathedral and Chapter Trusts will be glad to know that the persevering efforts of the Rev. R. Whiston, of the Rochester School, have at last been crowned with a modicum of success. He has obtained from the Chapter £140 a year more for Scholarships and Exhibitions for the boys whose cause he took up, so that each scholar will now get £21. 13s. 4d. a year, and each exhibitioner £40. 10s. instead of the miserable old pittance of £2. 13s. 4d. and £5, to which they were stinted till their master made their case known. Those who remember the abuse that Mr. Whiston had cast on him in the early days of his reform movement will rejoice to make up for it by a little approval and sympathy now.

OF "Tercentenary" literature beyond the new editions of Shakespeare which are appearing on all sides, we have to announce "*The Shakespeare Gazette: a Weekly Record of Proceedings Relative to the Tercentenary Celebration.*" It is intended by its means to supply a record of all proceedings connected with the movement for commemorating the three hundredth anniversary of the birthday of Shakespeare. It will furnish information respecting the transactions of the numerous committees at home and abroad, and will also consider and discuss various projects and suggestions as they arise; and will open its pages to correspondents interested in the subject. Next there is a "Consecrated Poem," whatever that may be, written by a kind of volunteer laureate "to commemorate the tricentenary of William Shakespeare, the Immortal Bard, Avon's Lord of Song," and opening with an imitation of Ovid's "Dum meis coeptis aspirare" in these lines:—

Oh, ye mighty gods! lend, lend me your breath,
(To laud the bard immortal in his death.)

LORD BROUGHAM has expressed his readiness to co-operate with the promoters of the Shakespeare

Tercentenary Celebration by joining the committee. His lordship will forthwith be placed amongst the vice-presidents of the association.

ACCORDING to the *Scotsman* of last Saturday, the remarkable narrative entitled "Pet Marjorie," which appeared in the last number of the *North British Review* from the pen of Dr. John Brown, having attracted the notice of the Queen, her Majesty has commanded a copy of the little work published by Mr. Nimmo of Edinburgh with the same title, and containing the materials whence the article was derived, to be forwarded to her.

LINGUISTIC literature is becoming important as a branch of book-selling. Messrs. Trübner & Co. of Paternoster Row have just issued a "Catalogue of Books appertaining to Linguistic Literature; Part IV. With an Appendix of Books on Folk-Lore;" an octavo volume of 138 pages. Mr. F. A. Brockhaus of Leipzig announces: "Catalogue d'une grande Bibliothèque à vendre aux prix marqués: Supplément à la quatrième Partie, Philologie Orientale et Indienne," consisting of 500 articles appertaining to the study of the languages of India and the East; and Mr. A. Franck of Paris has published: "Catalogue d'Ouvrages anciens et modernes relatifs à la Linguistique, Littérature, Histoire, et Voyages de l'Orient."

THE first part of Mr. Philip Smith's projected "History of the World," to be continued periodically, has just been issued by Messrs. Walton and Maberly. It comprehends 96 pages of clear octavo print, and begins the first Book, the subject of which is "The Patriarchal Age and the Origin of the Nations."

MESSRS. CHAPMAN AND HALL are about to publish a new life of Sterne, by Mr. Percy Fitzgerald, in which an attempt is made to rescue his memory from unmerited obloquy. Among other matters, it will contain a history of Dessein's picturesque hotel; the Valet La Fleur's story; Sterne's travels; the hotels he stayed at; his loves; the ghastly incidents of his death, and what befel his corpse—with many pictures of the society of London and Paris of that day; also a fuller account of the Sterne plagiarists.

"THE Life of Phillidor, Musician and Chess-player," by Professor Allen of Philadelphia, is amongst the more recent American publications.

A new novel, "The Old Helmet," by Miss Warner, the author of "The Wide, Wide World," will be simultaneously published in a few days in New York, London, and Leipzig. "Round the Block" is the title of a novel announced for publication by Messrs. Appleton & Co. of New York, in which, we are informed, there is no attempt made to teach doctrines or theories, but "the whole attention of the author is devoted to the development of the plot and the entertainment of the reader." The same firm will publish simultaneously with Messrs. Longman & Co. "The Life and Correspondence of Theodore Parker," by John Weiss.

THE "Life of Julius Cæsar," by Louis Napoleon, translated from advance sheets, is announced for publication by Mr. Carleton of New York and by Messrs. Walker, Wise, & Co. of Boston, U.S. Messrs. Little, Brown, & Co. of Boston will publish in a few days the ninth volume of Baneroff's "History of the United States," and the first volume of a new edition of Shakespeare, under the care of Mr. Richard Grant White.

MISS JEAN INGELOW's new poem, "A Sister's Bye-hours," will be published by means of early sheets, forwarded from Messrs. Longman & Co., simultaneously in England and America.

MESSRS. TICKNOR AND FIELDS of Boston, U.S., announce the simultaneous publication in America, with Messrs. Macmillan & Co. of London, of Mr. Henry Kingsley's new novel, "The Hillyars and the Burtons," and of Professor Kingsley's "Boys' History of England."

AN English translation of Renan's "Life of Jesus" is amongst the most recent New York announcements, as is also a reprint of the Rev. Derwent Coleridge's edition of Præd's works, not yet published in London.

THE following are among the latest French pamphlets on questions of the day:—"La Lutte Électorale en 1864, par Jules Ferry," second edition; "Où conduit l'Expédition du Mexique? par un Ex-Député;" "L'Alliance Russo-Américaine, par Félix Amaigne;" "Une Révolution à faire: Lettre à Mr. Gladstone, par Adrien de Brémont;" "L'Empereur Napoléon et le Congrès;" "Si les traités de 1815 ont cessé d'exister? Aides du futur Congrès, par P. J. Proudhon."

THE number of French almanacs is something so prodigious that every house in France seems to have an almanac written for its own special

use. Among those of last week (there are scores of them every week) we remark a lunatic almanac, an almanac "de la Guerre de Mexique pour 1864" (is there to be a new war?), an Almanach de Tintamarre, an Almanach Impérial et National, three "Vendée" Almanacs, Almanac for the Isle of Bourbon, an Almanach du Buc, &c., &c., &c.

"La Poésie et l'Éloquence à Rome" is the title of a new work by Jules Janin.

WE have to notice the following pamphlets on Poland:—"Remaniement de l'Europe;" "La Pologne aux Nations;" "Justice pour Naples et la Pologne."

AT one of the recent sittings of the Bundestag a motion was brought forward by the government of Saxe-Weimar to extend the copyright of Cotta's firm upon the works of Goethe, Schiller, Herder, and Wieland—which, together with the copyrights of all other German authors deceased before 1837, would expire on the 9th of November, 1867—for ten years more. The "Deputation of the Leipzig Booksellers' Association" have protested against this, and are about to take further steps to protect the rights of the public against an influential bookselling firm.

PRUSSIA thinks of war; and we have several pamphlets treating of the best way of fighting the French, or anybody. We notice "Die Offensive der Preussischen Armee (entworfen von W. von der Herde)," and "Der Kampfweise der Franzosen zu begegnen," by the same author.

"SIR Charles Lyell und sein Zeitalter," a *Cycle of Poems* by F. Fiebig, and "Is the Sun a Comet?" by Matzenauer, are among the recent publications of the German press.

"GROSSEBRITANNIEN'S Männer aus dem Volke,"—Great Britain's Self-made Men—is the title of a series of biographies which have appeared in the *Deutsche Arbeiter-Zeitung*, a kindred publication to our *British Workman*.

A SECOND edition has just appeared at Berlin of the "Standard Alphabet for reducing Unwritten Languages and Foreign Graphic Systems to a Uniform Orthography in European Letters," by Professor C. R. Lepsius of Berlin. This system is recommended for adoption by the Church Missionary Society.

OF German pamphlets, &c., lately published we notice:—"Schmettau, 'Der Socialismus und seine Propheten,'" "Das Königreich Polen, topographische und statistische Skizzen;" Confeld, "Das altrömische Bad und seine Bedeutung;" Ladendorff, "Militärische Zeit- und Charakterbilder," "Polen und Schleswig-Holstein; die Angelpunkte Napoleonischen Politik," &c.

THERE is to be a sexcentenary commemoration of Dante on the anniversary of his birth in May 1865.

SCIENCE.

ROYAL SOCIETY ANNIVERSARY.

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

WE are glad to be enabled thus early to lay before our readers the address of the President of the Royal Society, delivered at the Anniversary Meeting on Monday last—the more so as Major-General Sabine has dwelt in so masterly a manner upon most of the important questions which have lately occupied the attention of the scientific world.

England may congratulate herself that this year the Copley medal and the two Royal medals have all been awarded to Englishmen.

Great as was the enthusiasm when the medals were awarded, it was eclipsed when, at the dinner which took place in the evening, the Copley Medalist, Prof. Sedgwick, whose lifelong labours in the cause of geology are thus crowned at last, declared that, after half-a-century of labour, the reward brought back "something of the feelings of youth," and made him feel ready for work again. Impossible is it for those present to forget his speech, or that of Professor Phillips, who, in proposing the health of General Sabine, with a warmth which was repeated by all present, led them back some forty years into the past, when Sedgwick, geologizing on a miner's pony, found Phillips, a boy, sketch-book in hand, already at work on the science they have both since worked at so well.

The President's speech ran as follows:—

"When I had last the honour of addressing you at the anniversary meeting in 1862, I acquainted

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you that a communication had been received by your President and Council from the Duke of Newcastle, her Majesty's principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, requesting the opinion of the Royal Society on the scientific importance of the results to be expected from the establishment of a telescope of great optical power at Melbourne, in the colony of Victoria, for the observation of the nebulae and multiple stars of the Southern Hemisphere. The communication was founded on a despatch from Sir Henry Barkly, K.C.B., Governor of Victoria, soliciting on his own part and on that of the visitors of the Melbourne Observatory, the opinion of the Royal Society on this subject, and also on the most suitable construction of the telescope, both as to the optical part and the mounting, its probable cost, and the time required for its completion. It had happened that in 1853 the Royal Society and the British Association had united in an earnest representation to her Majesty's Government of the scientific importance of establishing in some convenient locality in her Majesty's dominions, from whence the southern nebulae and multiple stars could be observed, a telescope of the requisite optical power; and in a preparatory correspondence, which was printed at the time, and in which the principal persons interested in such researches had participated, the best form of telescope, its probable cost, and all particulars relating to it, had been largely discussed. The representation thus concurred in by the two principal scientific bodies of the United Kingdom was not successful in securing the desired object; but the correspondence then printed was still fitted to supply in great measure in 1862 the information on which the President and Council could ground their reply. The discussion in 1853 had terminated in the appointment of a committee, consisting of the Earl of Rosse, Dr. Robinson, and Messrs. Lassell and Warren de la Rue, to superintend the construction of the telescope, in the event of the recommendation of the two Societies being favourably received. But, as it was possible that the opinions previously entertained might have been in some degree modified by subsequent consideration or by more recent experience, the correspondence with those gentlemen was reopened, and their replies have formed a second correspondence, which, like the first, has been printed for the information of those Fellows of the Society who take a special interest in the subject. Availing themselves of these valuable communications, the President and Council replied to the Colonial Office by a report dated December 18, 1862. They have been since informed that copies of the report and of the correspondence have been sent to Melbourne for the information of the gentlemen with whom the proposition originated.

"It is quite possible that the thoughtful discussions embodied in the correspondence referred to may be found to have a prospective value not limited to the occasion which has given rise to them. The considerations which apply to a telescope for the observation of the southern nebulae at Melbourne are no less applicable to one which might be established on a site from whence a great part of the southern nebulae could also be observed (as well as those of our own hemisphere), but enjoying the immense advantage conferred by elevation into the higher and less dense strata of the atmosphere. Such sites are to be found in the Nilgiris at elevations of several thousand feet, combining also convenient accessibility and proximity to the resources of civilized life. It may be hoped that at some not distant day the subject will receive the consideration which it deserves from those who are entrusted with the government of that now integral part of the British empire.

"Having learnt that a series of pendulum experiments at the principal stations of the Great Russian Arc were in contemplation, I availed myself of an opportunity of informing M. Savitsch, by whom the operations were to be conducted, that the invariable pendulums which had been employed in the English experiments were now in the possession of the Royal Society, and, being unemployed, would, I was persuaded, be most readily lent by the Society on an application to that effect being made. The constants of these instruments, including the coefficient in the reduction to a vacuum, having been most carefully determined, they were ready, with the clocks and stands belonging to them, for immediate use, and would have the further advantage that experiments made with them in Russia would be at once brought into direct connexion with the British series, extending from 79° 50' N. to 62° 56' S. latitude. The communication was most cour-

teously received and replied to. It appeared, however, that a detached invariable pendulum had been already ordered by the Russian Government from M. Repsold, of Hamburg, shorter than the English pendulums, for convenience in land transport, and with two knife-edges and two fixed lenses, symmetrical in size and shape, but one light and the other heavy, and so arranged that the times of vibration should be the same on either knife-edge in air of the same temperature and density. M. Savitsch expressed his desire to bring this pendulum in the first instance to Kew, and to secure thereby the connexion of his own with the English series; and where also he would have the opportunity of testing the exactness of the correction for buoyancy by vibrating his pendulum on both its knife-edges in the vacuum apparatus which is now established at Kew.

"It is much to be desired that a similar series of pendulum experiments to those about to be undertaken in Russia should be made at the principal points of the Great Indian Arc; and the steps which are understood to be in progress in providing new instruments for the verification of the astronomical and geodesical operations of the Trigonometrical Survey of India, and to give them a still greater extension, would seem to present a most favourable opportunity for the combination of pendulum experiments. In such case the pendulums of the Royal Society might be made available with excellent effect.

"The large size of our printed volumes in the present year gives no unfavourable and, I think, no unfair idea of the present scientific activity of the Society; for I believe it may be safely said that our Council has not been less vigilant and cautious than heretofore in the selection of the papers to be printed. Although much care has been given to keeping the expenses of illustration within reasonable bounds, the cost of the Society's publications has been this year unusually high; yet I am glad to be able to state that our whole expenditure within the year has fallen within our income. With your permission, I will briefly advert to a few of the subjects which have occupied the Society's attention in the past year.

"The researches of Kirchhoff and Bunsen have rendered it in a high degree probable that we shall be able to obtain much insight into the chemical nature of the atmospheres of the brighter fixed stars by observing the dark lines in their spectra, and comparing them with the bright lines in the spectra of elementary, and perhaps also of compound bodies, in the state of incandescent gas or vapour. The interest of such an inquiry is obvious; but the difficulties involved in it are very great. The quantity of light coming from even such a star as Sirius is so small that, without the use of a powerful telescope, the spectrum obtained would be too faint to bear sufficient enlargement to show properly the fixed lines. The apparent diurnal motion of the stars causes much embarrassment, unless the instrument be mounted equatorially, and furnished with a clock movement. The control of the experiments on incandescent bodies requires a thorough knowledge of chemistry, so as to avoid being misled by impurities in the substances examined, and to be prepared to interpret decompositions or combinations which may take place under unusual circumstances, and which may be manifested only by their effects. Nor can the astronomical and physical parts of the inquiry be well dissociated, so as to be separately undertaken by different individuals; for the most elaborate drawings can hardly convey a faithful idea of the various aspects of the different dark and bright lines, which yet must be borne in mind in instituting a comparison in cases of apparent coincidence. It is fortunate, therefore, that the inquiry has been taken up by two gentlemen working in concert. In a short paper read to the Society on the 26th of last February, and published in the *Proceedings*, Mr. Huggins and Dr. Miller have described and figured the spectra of three of the brighter stars, and this part of the inquiry will doubtless be continued. In a paper since presented to the Society, Mr. Huggins describes the means employed for practically determining with accuracy the positions of any stellar lines which may be observed, with reference to known points of the spectrum, and has given beautiful maps of the spectra of twenty-four of the elementary bodies under the action of the inductive discharge, reserving others for a future communication. When the inquiry is completed, it is possible that we may obtain an amount of knowledge respecting the constitution of those distant heavenly bodies of which we have at present little conception.

"Professor Tyndall has given us the fourth of a series of papers upon the relation of gases and

vapours to radiant heat. In the course of these inquiries he has shown that the different aeriform bodies, even though colourless, exert very different degrees of absorptive action on the rays of heat; and that certain portions of these heat-rays are more powerfully absorbed than others, rays from objects at a low temperature being more easily absorbed than those from objects at an elevated temperature. He has also proved that gases radiate as well as absorb; and, in conformity with what is known in the case of solids, that in gaseous media also there is equality in the powers of radiation and absorption. Bodies which exert an absorbent effect in the liquid form preserve it in the gaseous state. If further experiments should confirm Mr. Tyndall's views upon the absorptive action of aqueous vapour upon radiant heat of low intensity, these results must materially modify some of the views hitherto held upon the meteorological relations of aqueous vapour.

"The Bakerian Lecture, by Mr. Sorby, is entitled by him 'On the Direct Correlation of Mechanical and Chemical Forces.' In this paper are embodied a series of observations upon the influence of pressure upon the solubility of salts, in which he has obtained results analogous to the change in the freezing point of liquids under pressure. He finds in cases where, as is usual, the volume of the water and the salt is less than the volume of the water and the salt separately, that the solubility is increased by pressure; but that, in cases where, as when sal ammoniac is dissolved in water, the bulk of the solution is greater than that of the water and salt taken separately, the solubility is lessened by a small but measurable amount. On the contrary, salts which expand in crystallizing from solution must, under pressure, overcome mechanical resistance in that change; and, as this resistance is opposed to the force of crystallization, the salt is rendered more soluble. The extent of the influence of pressure, and the mechanical value of the force of crystalline polarity, were found to vary in different salts. Mr. Sorby also indicates the results of the action of salts upon certain carbonates under pressure, and purposes pursuing his researches upon chemical action under pressure. This paper may, therefore, be regarded as forming the first of a series upon a highly interesting and important branch of investigation, for which Mr. Sorby appears to be specially fitted, by combining the needful geological knowledge with the skill in manipulation required in the physical and chemical part of the inquiry.

"The examination of the bright lines in the spectra of electric discharges passing through various gases, and between electrodes of various metals, has of late years attracted very general attention. Each elementary gas and each metal show certain well-marked characteristic lines, from the presence or absence of which it is commonly assumed that the presence or absence of the element in question may be inferred. But the question may fairly be asked, Has it been established that these lines depend so absolutely on chemical character that none of them can be common to two or more different bodies? Has it been ascertained that, while the chemical nature of the bodies remains unchanged, the lines never vary if the circumstances of mass, density, &c., are changed? What evidence have we that spectra are superposed, so that we observe the full sum of the spectra which the electrodes and the medium would produce separately?

"To examine these and similar questions in the only unimpeachable way, that of actual experiment, formed the object of a long and laborious research by Dr. Robinson, the results of which are contained in a paper in our *Transactions*. In the course of this research, Dr. Robinson had occasion to take careful measures of the positions of all the bright lines visible (and not too weak to measure) in a great number of spectra, those, namely, of the induction discharge passing between electrodes of twenty different metals, as well as graphite, most of which were observed in each of five different gases (including air), and for each gas separately at the atmospheric pressure, and at the low pressure obtained by a good air-pump.

"On taking an impartial survey of this great assemblage of experimental facts, Dr. Robinson inclines to the opinion that the origin of the lines is to be referred to some yet undiscovered relation between matter in general and the transfer of electric action; and that, while the places of the lines are thus determined independently of particular circumstances, the brightness of the lines is modified, according to the special properties of the molecules which are present, through a range from great intensity down to a faintness which may elude our most powerful means of observation.

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"By a discussion of the results of the magnetic observations maintained for several years past at the Kew Observatory with an accuracy previously unattained, and by combining these with the earlier results of the observations at the British colonial observatories, I have been enabled to trace and, as I believe, satisfactorily to establish the existence of an annual variation in the three elements of the earth's magnetism, which has every appearance of being dependent upon the earth's position in her orbit relatively to the sun. Substantiated by the concurrent testimony of observations in both hemispheres, and in parts of the globe most widely distant from each other, this conclusion furnishes an additional evidence of a cosmical magnetic relation subsisting between the earth and other bodies of the solar system, and thus extends the scope and widens the basis of sound induction upon which the permanent relations of magnetical science must rest.

"To Dr. Otto Torell, Professor of Zoology in the University of Lund, we are indebted for a communication of much interest, informing us of the progress made by an expedition, appointed by the Swedish Government at the recommendation of the Royal Academy of Sciences at Stockholm, to execute a survey preliminary to the measurement of an arc of the meridian at Spitzbergen. The objects of the preliminary survey were to ascertain whether suitable angular points for a triangulation could be found from Ross Island at the extreme north, to Hope Island at the extreme south of Spitzbergen, and to determine on a favourable locality for the measurement of a base-line. The result of the first year's exploration has been the selection of stations, on hills of moderate height and easy access from the coast, for nine triangles, shown in the sketch accompanying Dr. Torell's paper, including Ross Island in the extreme north and extending over about $1^{\circ} 50'$ of the proposed arc of $4\frac{1}{2}$ degrees. A convenient locality has also been found for the base-line. The continuation of the preliminary survey to the extreme southern limit is to be the work of the summer of 1864. The report of the geodesical surveyors has shown that the northern portion presents no impediments which may not be surmounted by courage and perseverance; and, with regard to the southern portion, the knowledge already acquired is considered to justify the expectation that the result of the second year's exploration will be no less favourable. Should such be the case, it is anticipated that the necessary steps will be taken for carrying into execution the measurement of the arc itself.

"I may, perhaps, be permitted to allude for a moment to the peculiar interest with which I must naturally regard the proposed undertaking. The measurement of an arc of the meridian at Spitzbergen is an enterprise which, nearly forty years ago, was a cherished project of my own, which I had planned the means of executing, and which I ardently desired to be permitted to carry out personally. I may well therefore feel a peculiar pleasure in now seeing it renewed under what I regard as yet more promising auspices:—whilst I cannot but be sensible of how little I could have anticipated that I should have had the opportunity, at this distance of time, and from this honourable chair, of congratulating the Swedish Government and Academy upon their undertaking, and of thanking Dr. Torell for having traced its origination to my early proposition.

"It is well remarked by Dr. Torell, that the triangulation, should it be proceeded with, will not be the only result of the years of scientific labour at Spitzbergen. There are, indeed, many important investigations for which the geographical circumstances would be eminently favourable. Two such may be specified, for which we may reasonably anticipate that full opportunity would be afforded, and for which the requisite instruments of precision are neither costly nor cumbersome. One is a more exact determination of the data on which our tables of astronomical refraction are founded. The other is the employment of Cagnoli's method for determining the figure of the earth by occultations of the fixed stars.* This last would be tried under circumstances far more favourable than those contemplated by its original proposer—by reason of the high latitude of the northern observer—the greater number of stars in the moon's path, now included in our catalogues, of which a special ephemeris might be made—and the much greater amount of concerted corresponding observations

* Antonio Cagnoli, "Nuovo e sicuro Mezzo per riconoscere la Figura della Terra." *Memorie della Società Italiana*, Verona, Vol. vi. 1792. An English translation, with notes and an appendix, was printed for private circulation in 1819 by Mr. Francis Bailey.

which might now be secured. The advantage peculiar to this mode of determination is, that it is exempt from the influence of local irregularities in the direction and force of gravity which embarrass the results of the measurements of degrees and of pendulum experiments. As a third and thoroughly distinct method of investigation, it seems at least well deserving of a trial.

"Swedish naturalists are not likely to undervalue the interest attaching to careful examinations of the constancy or variation of the elevation of land above the sea-level; and I may therefore venture to refer them to a paper in the *Phil. Trans.* for 1824 (Art. xvi), written from Spitzbergen itself in July 1823, containing the particulars of a barometrical and trigonometrical determination of the height (approximately 1644 English feet) of the well-defined summit of a conspicuous hill in the vicinity of Fairhaven. The barometrical comparison was repeated on several days, the barometer on the summit of the hill being stationary, and the observation of the two barometers strictly simultaneous, the stations being visible from each other by a telescope. The height as given by the two methods, barometrical and trigonometrical, was in excellent accord. The hill may be identified with certainty by the plan which accompanies the paper referred to: it is of easy access, and may be remeasured with little difficulty.

"It will be remembered that a few years ago the attention of the Royal Society was called by the Foreign Office to the circumstance of several glass bottles with closed necks having been found on the shores of the west coast of Nova Zembla, leading to a conjecture that they might afford some clue to the discovery of the missing ships of Sir John Franklin's expedition. The inquiries instituted by the Royal Society traced the bottles in question to a recent manufacture in Norway, where they are used as floats to the fishing-nets employed on that coast. These floats, accidentally separated from the nets, had been carried by the stream-current which sets along the Norwegian coast round the North Cape, and thus afforded evidence of the prolongation of the current of Nova Zembla. The Swedish expedition in the course of its summer exploration found on the northern shore of Spitzbergen several more of these bottle-floats, some of which even bore Norwegian marks and names, supplying evidence, of considerable geographical interest, of the extension of the Norwegian stream-current to Spitzbergen, either by a circuitous course past the shores of Nova Zembla, or by a more direct offshoot of which no previous knowledge existed. It is thus that step by step we improve our knowledge of the currents which convey the waters of the more temperate regions to the Polar seas, and produce effects which are traceable in many departments of physical geography.

"The application of gun-cotton to warlike purposes and engineering operations, and the recent improvements in its manufacture, have been the subject of a report prepared by a joint committee of the chemical and mechanical sections of the British Association, consisting chiefly of Fellows of the Royal Society. The report was presented at the meeting in Newcastle in September last, and is now in the press. The Committee had the advantage of personal communication with General von Lenk, of the Imperial Austrian artillery, the inventor of the system of preparation and adaptation by which gun-cotton has been made practically available for warlike purposes in the Austrian service. On the invitation of the Committee, and with the very liberal permission of the Emperor of Austria, General von Lenk visited England for the purpose of thoroughly explaining his system; and we have in the report of the Committee the information, thus gained directly from the fountain-head, of the results of his experience in the course of trials extending over many years; together with additional investigations by individual members of the Committee.

"The advantages which are claimed for gun-cotton over gunpowder for ordnance purposes and mining operations are so many and so important as to call imperatively for the fullest investigation. Such an inquiry, however, in its complete sense, is both beyond and beside the scope and purposes of a purely scientific body; and the British Association have done well—whilst reappointing the Committee to complete certain experiments which they had devised, with the view of clearing up some scientific points which are still more or less obscure—in pressing on the attention of her Majesty's Government the expediency of instituting under its own auspices a full and searching inquiry into the possible applications of gun-cotton in the public service.

"The absence of smoke, and the entire freedom from the fouling of the gun, are points of great moment in promoting the rapidity of fire and the accuracy of aim of guns employed in casemates or in the between-decks of ships of war; to these we must add the innocuous character of the products of combustion in comparison with those of gunpowder, and the far inferior heat imparted to the gun itself by repeated and rapid discharges. With equal projectile effects, the weight of the charge of gun-cotton is but one-third of that of gunpowder: the recoil is stated to be reduced in the proportion of 2 to 3, and the length of the gun itself to admit of a diminution of nearly one-third. These conclusions are based on the evidence of long and apparently very carefully conducted courses of experiment in the imperial factory in the neighbourhood of Vienna. The results appear to be especially deserving the attention of those who are engaged in the important problems of facilitating the employment of guns of large calibre and of great projectile force in the broadsides of our line-of-battle ships, and in reducing, as far as may be possible, the dimensions of the ports.

"In the varied applications of explosive force in military or civil engineering, the details of many experiments which bear on this branch of the inquiry are stated in the Report of the Committee, and appear to be highly worthy of consideration and of further experiment.

"It cannot be said that the advantages now claimed for gun-cotton are altogether a novel subject of discussion in this country. When the material was first introduced by Schönbein in 1846, its distinctive qualities in comparison with gunpowder were recognised, although at that period they were far less well ascertained by experiment than they are at present. To the employment of gun-cotton as then known there was, however, a fatal drawback in its liability to spontaneous combustion. The elaborate experiments of General von Lenk have shown that this liability was due to imperfection in its preparation, and ceases altogether when suitable processes are adopted in its manufacture. Perfect gun-cotton is a definite chemical compound; and certain processes for the removal of all extraneous matter and of every trace of free acid are absolutely indispensable. But, when thus prepared, it appears to be no longer liable to spontaneous combustion: it can be transported from place to place with perfect security, or be stored for any length of time without danger of deterioration. It is not impaired by damp; and may be submerged without injury, its original qualities returning unchanged on its being dried in the open air and in ordinary temperatures.

"A scarcely less important point towards the utilization of gun-cotton, and the safety with which it may be employed in gunnery, is the power of modifying and regulating its explosive energy at pleasure, by means of variations in the mechanical structure of the cartridge, and in the relative size of the chamber in which it is fired.

"The experiments made by the Austrian Artillery Commission, as well as those for blasting and mining, were conducted on a very large scale; with small arms the trials appear to have been comparatively few.

"There can be no hesitation in assenting to and accepting the concluding sentence of the Committee's report. 'The subject has neither chemically nor mechanically received that thorough investigation that it deserves. There remain many exact measures still to be made, and many important data to be obtained. The phenomena attending the explosion of both gun-cotton and gunpowder have to be investigated, both as to the temperatures generated in the act of explosion, and the nature of the compounds which result from them, under circumstances strictly analogous to those which occur in artillery practice.'

"I proceed to announce the awards which the Council has made of the Medals in the present year; and to state the grounds upon which these awards have been made.

"The Copley Medal has been awarded to the Rev. Adam Sedgwick, for his observations and discoveries in the Geology of the Palæozoic Series of Rocks, and more especially for his determination of the characters of the Devonian System, by observations of the order and superposition of the Killas Rocks and their Fossils in Devonshire.

"Mr. Sedgwick was appointed Woodwardian Professor of Geology in the University of Cambridge in the year 1818, since which time, up to a recent period, comprising an interval of upwards of forty years, he has devoted himself to geological researches with an ability, a persistent zeal, and untiring perseverance, which place him amongst the foremost of those eminent men by whose

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genius, sagacity, and labours the science of geology has attained its present high position. To duly appreciate his earlier work as a geological observer and reasoner, we must recall to recollection the comparative ignorance which prevailed forty or fifty years ago, to the dispersion of which his labours have so largely contributed. Geology was then beset by wild and untenable speculations on the one hand, whilst on the other even its most calm and rational theories were received by many with distrust or with ridicule, and by others with aversion, as likely to interfere with those convictions on which the best hopes of man repose.

"Under such circumstances geology needed the support and open advocacy of men who, by their intellect and acquirements, and by the respect attached to their individual characters, their profession, or social position, might be able on the one hand to repress wild fancies, and on the other to rebut the unfounded assertions of those who opposed the discussion of scientific truth. Such a man was Professor Sedgwick, and such was the influence he exerted. It may be well to make this allusion on an occasion like the present, because it often happens, not unnaturally, that those who are most occupied with the questions of the day in an advancing science retain but an imperfect recollection of the obligations due to those who laid the first foundation of our subsequent knowledge.

"More than forty years have passed since Professor Sedgwick began those researches among the older rocks of England which it became the main purpose of his life to complete. In 1822 was begun that full and accurate survey of the Magnesian Limestone of the North of England which to this day holds its high place in the estimation of geologists as the foundation of our knowledge of this important class of deposits, whether we regard their origin, form of deposition, peculiarities of structure, or organic contents.

"Contemporaneously with this excellent work, he examined the whin sill of Upper Teesdale, showed its claims to be treated as a rock of fusion, and discussed the perplexed question of its origin.

"Advancing to one of the great problems which occupied his thoughts for many years, he combined in 1831 the observations of the older rocks of the Lake Mountains which he had commenced in 1822, and added a special memoir on the great dislocations by which they are sharply defined and separated from the Pennine chain of Yorkshire. Memoirs followed in quick succession on the New Red Sandstone of the Vale of Eden; on the stratified and unstratified rocks of the Cumbrian Mountains, and on the limestone and granite veins near Shap. Thus, thirty years since, before the names of Cambrian and Silurian were ever heard, under which we now thankfully class the strata of the English Lakes, those rocks had been vigorously assailed and brought into a lucid order and system, which is to this day unchanged; though by the same hands which laid the foundations many important additions have been made, one of signal value in 1851—the lower Palæozoic rocks at the base of the Carboniferous chain between Ravenstonedale and Ribblesdale. Perhaps no district in the world affords an example of one man's researches begun so early, continued so long, and ending so successfully. By these persevering efforts, the geology of the lake district came out into the light; and there is no doubt, and can be no hesitation in ascribing to them the undivided honour of the first unrolling of the long series of deposits which constitute the oldest groups of British fossiliferous rocks.

"Still more complete, however, was the success of that work which was undertaken immediately afterwards on the coeval rocks of Wales; by which Professor Sedgwick and Sir Roderick Murchison, toiling in separate districts, unravelled the intricate relations of those ancient rocks, and determined the main features of the successive groups of ancient life which they enclose. These labours began in 1831—32, and in 1835 the two great explorers had advanced so far in their research as to present a united memoir to the British Association in Dublin, showing the progress each had made in the establishment of the Cambrian and Silurian systems, as they were then called; Professor Sedgwick taking the former, and Sir Roderick Murchison the latter for his special field of study.

"In 1843 Professor Sedgwick produced two memoirs on the structure of what he then termed the Protozoic rocks of North Wales. Many excellent sections were given in detail in these memoirs; those exhibiting the structure of the western part of the district about Carnarvonshire being principally taken from his observations in 1831-32, while the more detailed sections of the eastern part were from those of 1842-43.

These two papers gave the complete outline or framework, as it were, of the geological structure of this intricate region. In several subsequent years he continued to fill up this outline with further details, observed almost entirely by himself, giving numerous general and local sections, by which he determined the dip and strike of the beds, normal and abnormal, and all the great anticlinal and synclinal lines on which the fundamental framework depends.

"Further and still minutest details were subsequently given, as was to be expected, by the government surveyors; but the general arrangement, finally recognised on the map of the survey, is essentially the same as that previously worked out by his unaided labours.

"It was a principle always advocated by Professor Sedgwick, that the geological structure of a complicated district could never be accurately determined by fossils alone without a detailed examination of its stratification. He always proceeded on this principle; nor (from the paucity of organic remains) would it have been possible on any other principle to have determined the real geological character of those older districts which he investigated so successfully. His arrangement and nomenclature of the Cambrian rocks in North Wales (the Lower Silurians of Sir Roderick Murchison) are given in his 'Synopsis of the Classification of the British Palæozoic Rocks,' 1855. It possesses the weight which must always be recognised as appertaining to the authority of the geologist who, by his own labours, first solved the great problem of the physical structure of the district.

"There are other important memoirs of Professor Sedgwick's of which time forbids more than a very passing notice. The memoir 'On the Structure of large Mineral Masses,' published in 1831, was the first, and remains to this day the best descriptive paper which has yet appeared on joints, planes of cleavage, nodular concretions, &c.

"Always attentive to the purpose of preparing a complete and general classification of the Palæozoic strata, Professor Sedgwick at an early period in his career printed a memoir 'On the Physical Structure of the Older Strata of Devon and Cornwall;' and another 'On the Physical Structure of the Serpentine District of the Lizard.' Of later date are several papers written by him, conjointly with Sir Roderick Murchison, respecting the Devonian system. The principal of these, published in 1840, comprised the work of several previous years, and made known the true nature of the *Culm Beds* of North Devon, as belonging to the Carboniferous series, and their position in a trough of the subjacent rocks, which rocks, on account of their position and their organic contents, were concluded to belong to the Devonian, or Old Red Sandstone period, a conclusion which was at first controverted, but was ultimately admitted. In another memoir by the same authors in 1828, they conclude that the coarse old red conglomerate along the north-western coast of Scotland and in Caithness is of about the same age as the Old Red Sandstone of South Wales and Herefordshire, and therefore of the Devonian period. They also published in 1840 an account of their general observations on the Palæozoic formations of Belgium and the banks of the Rhine, the results of which were considered to harmonize with those derived from other localities. Finally, we may notice another joint memoir by these authors in 1830, 'On the Structure of the Eastern Alps,' which, however, had no immediate relation to the researches on the Palæozoic formations.

"It will be observed that the memoirs which have been noticed are for the most part pervaded by a certain unity of purpose. The investigations were not on points of merely local interest, but were essential for the elucidation of the geological history of our planet during those early periods of which the records are most difficult to unfold. Few persons, perhaps, can have an adequate idea of the difficulties he had to contend with when he first entered North Wales as a geologist. Geologically speaking, it was a *terra incognita* of which he undertook to read the geological history before any one had deciphered the characters in which it is written. Moreover, besides the indistinctness and complexity of the stratification, and the obscurity which then prevailed as to the distinction between planes of stratification and planes of cleavage, there was also the difficulty of what may be called 'mountain geometry'—that geometry by which we unite in imagination lines and surfaces observed in one part of a complicated mountain or district with those in another, so as to form a distinct geometrical conception of the arrangement of the intervening masses. This is

not an ordinary power; but Mr. Sedgwick's early mathematical education was favourable to the cultivation of it. We think it extremely doubtful whether any other British geologist forty years ago could have undertaken, with a fair chance of success, the great and difficult work which he accomplished.

"Such are the direct and legitimate claims of Professor Sedgwick to the honour conferred upon him by the award of the Copley Medal. But there are also other claims, less direct, but which it would be wrong to pass altogether unnoticed. It is not only by written documents that knowledge and a taste for its acquirement are disseminated; and those who have had the good fortune to attend Professor Sedgwick's lectures, or may have enjoyed social intercourse with him, will testify to the charm and interest he frequently gives to geology by the happy mixture of playful elucidation of the subject with the graver and eloquent exposition of its higher principles and objects."

The Copley Medal was then presented with the following address:—

"PROFESSOR SEDGWICK,—Accept this medal, the highest honour which it is in the power of the Royal Society to confer, in testimony of our appreciation of the importance of the researches which have occupied so large a portion of your life, and which have placed you in the foremost rank of those eminent men by whose genius and labours geology has attained its present high position in our country.

"The Council has awarded a royal medal to the Rev. Miles Joseph Berkeley for his researches in Cryptogamic Botany, especially Mycology.

"Mr. Berkeley's labours as a cryptogamic botanist for upwards of thirty-five years, during which they have been more especially devoted to that extensive and most difficult order of plants the fungi, have rendered him, in the opinion of the botanical members of the Council, by far the most eminent living author in that department. These labours have consisted in large measure of the most arduous and delicate microscopic investigation. Besides papers in various journals on fungi from all parts of the globe, and in particular an early and admirable memoir on British fungi, the volume entitled 'Introduction to Cryptogamic Botany,' published in 1857, is one which especially deserves to be noticed here. It is a work which he alone was qualified to write. It is full of sagacious remarks and reasoning; and particular praise is due to the special and conscientious care bestowed on the verification of every part, however minute and difficult, upon which its broad generalizations are founded. Mr. Berkeley's merits are not confined to description or classification; there are facts of the highest significance which he has been the first to indicate, and which in many cases he has also proved by observation and by experiments. We refer to his observations on the development of the reproductive bodies of the three orders of Thallophytes (Algae, Lichens, and Fungi), and on the conversion under peculiar conditions of certain forms of their fruit into others; to the exact determination of the relations, and sometimes of the absolute specific identity of various forms of fungi previously referred to different tribes; and to the recognition, in many species and genera, of a diversity of methods of reproduction in giving origin to parallel series of forms. As intimately connected with the life-history of fungi, the intricate subject of vegetable pathology has been greatly elucidated by him; and he is, indeed, the one British authority in this department. His intimate acquaintance with vegetable tissues, and with the effects of external agents—such as climate, soil, exposure, &c.—has enabled him to refer many maladies to their source, and to propose methods, which in some cases have proved successful, of averting, checking, and even curing diseases in some of our most valuable crops. In this line of research he has also demonstrated, on the one hand, that many so-called epiphytal and parasitic fungi are nothing but morbid conditions of the tissues of the plant; on the other hand, that microscopic fungi lurk and produce the most disastrous results where their presence had been least suspected."

Addressing the Rev. M. Berkeley, the President said:—

"MR. BERKELEY,—I present you with this medal in testimony of the high opinion which the botanical members of the Council of the Royal Society entertain of your researches in cryptogamic botany, especially mycology, which, in their judgment, entitle you to be regarded as the most eminent living author in that department of science.

"The Council has awarded a royal medal to John Peter Gassiot, Esq., for his researches on the Voltaic Battery and Current, and on the Discharge of Electricity through Attenuated Media. These contributions, most of which are recorded in our *Transactions*, are of high value, and in some

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respects peculiar. Their experimental part has been conducted on a scale of magnitude and power unmatched since the days of Davy and of Children, with apparatus of the highest perfection, and with consummate dexterity and skill; and the discussion and interpretation of the facts observed are characterized by sound theory and sober judgment. It would trespass too much on your time were I to give a detailed account of them, and I shall only select a few which are examples of what Bacon has called 'Instantiæ Crucis'—such as, when the mind is undecided between several paths, point out the true one.

"1. The first decides a question which was long debated with great vehemence, whether the energy of the voltaic battery arises from the contact of its metals, or from chemical action. The first of these opinions was mainly supported by the fact that, when two dissimilar metals are made to touch, they show signs of opposite electricities when separated. Mr. Gassiot showed in 1844 that the same occurs when the metals are separated by a thin stratum of air without having been in previous contact.

"2. The identity of voltaic with frictional electricity was denied by many, because it gave no spark through an interval of air. Davy had, indeed, asserted the contrary in his 'Elements of Chemical Philosophy'; but his statement seems to have been doubted or unheeded. Mr. Gassiot, in the *Transactions* for 1844, has put the fact beyond dispute; he showed that, by increasing the number of cells and carefully insulating them, sparks can be obtained even with the feeblest elements. With 3520 cells, zinc and copper excited with rain-water, he obtained sparks in rapid succession through $\frac{1}{8}$ th of an inch; and a little later added to this a fact of still higher significance, that, by exalting the chemical action in the cells, the same or even greater effect could be produced by a much smaller series. The battery of 500 Grove's cells, which was constructed for these experiments, is probably in some respects the most powerful that was ever made.

"3. The currents produced by electric or magnetic induction are of the highest interest, and the employment of them as a source of electric power is almost daily enriching physical science with precious results. In this new field Mr. Gassiot has been one of the most successful explorers. So early as 1839 he showed that the induction-current gives a real spark, and he found that in the flame of a spirit-lamp it could strike at a distance of $\frac{1}{4}$ th of an inch.

"4. The splendid phenomena produced by the discharge of the induction-current through rarefied gases or vapours are well known; in particular the stratification of the light. The cause of this is not yet fully understood, but Mr. Gassiot has made some very important additions to our knowledge of it in the Bakerian Lecture for 1858, and his subsequent communications to the Society. Among these may be named his explanation of the occasionally reversed curvature of the strata, and his discovery of the reciprocating discharge, which, seeming single, is composed of two opposite in direction, but detected by the different action of a magnet on each of them—a beautiful test, which is of wide application in such researches. Again, the Torricellian vacuum which he used at first, even when absolutely free from air, contains mercurial vapour: by applying to his tubes a potent freezing mixture he found that as this vapour condensed the strata vanished, the light and transmission of electricity decreased, till at a very low temperature both ceased entirely. It follows from this that a perfect vacuum does not conduct—a fact of cosmical importance, which had been surmised before, but not proved; and the desire of verifying this discovery led him to a means of far higher rarefaction. A tube containing a piece of fused hydrate of potassa is filled with dry carbonic acid, exhausted to the limit of the air-pump's power, and sealed; then, by heating the potassa, the residual carbonic acid is mostly, or even totally, absorbed. Vessels so exhausted, though still containing vapour of potassa, and, perhaps, of water, have a better vacuum than had been previously obtained, and often cease to conduct till a little of the alkali is vapourized by heating them, and the gradual progress of the exhaustion gives a wide range of observation.

"5. The current of an induction machine is necessarily intermittent, and it has been supposed that the strata are in some way caused by the intermittence, and are possibly connected with the mode of action of the contact-breaker. Mr. Gassiot has, however, shown that they are perfectly developed in the discharge of an extended voltaic battery through exhausted tubes. The large water-battery already mentioned shows them

in great beauty; the discharge, however, is still intermittent.

"6. The same appearance is exhibited by a Grove's battery of 400 well-insulated cells; but in this case a new and remarkable phenomenon presents itself. At first the discharge resembles that obtained from the water-battery, and is, like it, intermittent; but, suddenly, it changes its character from intermittent to continuous (so far, at least, as can be decided by a revolving mirror), and everything indicates that we have now the true voltaic arc. The discharge is now of dazzling brilliancy, and is stratified as before, whence it appears that strata are capable of being produced by the true arc discharge.

"7. This change is accompanied by a remarkable alteration in the heating of the two electrodes. Mr. Gassiot had previously shown that, in the ordinary voltaic arc, formed in air of the usual pressure, the positive electrode is that which is the more heated, whilst in the discharge of an induction machine, whether sent through air at the ordinary pressure between electrodes of thin wire, or through an exhausted tube, it is the negative. The discharge through the large Grove's battery, so long as it was intermittent, agreed with the induction discharge in this character as in others, that the negative electrode was that which became heated; but, when the discharge suddenly and spontaneously passed from the intermittent to continuous, the previously heated negative electrode became cool, and the positive was intensely heated.

"These brief references will suffice to show what a high place Mr. Gassiot holds amongst those who are investigating this new track, which promises such great advance in our knowledge of those molecular forces in the study of which all physical science must ultimately centre. I may be permitted to add, that in his whole career he has sought not his own fame, but the advancement of science; he has rejoiced as much in the discoveries of others as in his own, and aided them by every appliance in his power. I cannot refrain from mentioning a recent instance in which this liberal and unselfish spirit has been strikingly exhibited. He has had executed a grand spectroscope, furnished with no less than nine faultless prisms, a design in which he has been ably seconded by the skill of the optician Mr. Browning, to whom the construction was entrusted. This magnificent instrument he has placed at the disposal of any Fellow of the Society who may happen to be engaged in researches requiring the use of such powerful apparatus. The instrument is at present at the Kew Observatory, where it is in contemplation to undertake the construction of a highly elaborate map of the spectrum.

"Mr. Gassiot is still pursuing his electrical researches, and we may be assured that he will feel this acknowledgment of his labours by the Royal Society not merely as a recompense for that he has accomplished, but as an obligation to continued exertion and new discoveries."

The medal was then handed to Mr. Gassiot, with the following remarks:—

"MR. GASSIOT.—You will receive this medal as a mark of the deep interest which the Royal Society takes in the investigations in which you are engaged, and of the high value which it attaches to the results with which you have already enriched our transactions.

"These are the grounds on which the medal has been awarded to you by the Council; but it may be permitted to me to express the hope that you will also associate with it—as it is impossible that we should not do—the Society's recognition of the generous and kindly spirit which has manifested itself, as elsewhere, so also in all your pursuit of science, of which one memorial amongst others will remain in future times connected with the Society—in the establishment of the Scientific Relief Fund."

AEROSTATION.

WE have before remarked upon the great interest with which, principally owing to the scientific balloon ascents, aerial navigation has been regarded during the last two years. Indeed, when the British Association took the initiative in rendering the balloons useful machine, every one felt assured that good results would attend the promised experiments.

The recent balloon voyages in England seem to have fired our ingenious neighbours with the desire to be even with us, and to excel us if possible, in exploring those regions where Frenchmen first taught us to soar. This is quite natural; and, doubtless, ballooning will benefit by the united labours of aspiring, but competent aeronauts. Whilst, however, in England the balloon has been adhered to in its simple form as the vehicle with which much information may still be obtained, the French, on the other hand, consider that this primitive machine will never

advance aerial navigation, and that it should be thrown aside for a screw propeller, to be used without any auxiliary gas receptacle whatever.

M. Nadar says that "the first condition, in order to move oneself in the air, is to suppress balloons." He has, however, made a very large one, in direct opposition to this explicit avowal, as we all know. Thus, M. Barral in a report talks of aerial autolocomotion rendered possible by the suppression absolutely of every *aérostat*, and by the employment of the screw and inclined planes. "It is the screw, the holy screw (*la sainte hélice*), which is to carry us through the air," repeats M. Nadar. Might we then suppose that the perilous descents of the "Géant" were actually pre-arranged illustrations of the impossibility of governing balloons, and therefore of the importance of resorting to the screw?

Scientific men in England who have read M. Nadar's publication, to which we have before drawn attention, fully concur in the importance of discarding balloons directly the wind can be breasted and travelled by any other contrivance; and, if M.M. Nadar, Babinet, and Barral will convince the world of the practicability of moving a machine through the atmosphere by this "motor," as they style the screw, every one in this country will gladly do them honour, and our aeronauts possibly will imitate their example. That the screw is the right thing to propel an aerial chariot is undoubted; as boys, we have seen this piece of mechanism so adapted at the Polytechnic; nor is there any reason to disbelieve the assertion that a model screw-propeller has raised a mouse in Paris, although we discline to believe that the *hélice* "will carry ten times more easily an elephant."

Herein consists the difference and the difficulty. The toy *strophéore* is composed of a small screw detached from its support by rapidly pulling a string, just as a boy does his humming-top; but the toy is insignificant in size, and the entire muscular power of a man's arms are exerted to eject it; then its flight is swift and erratic, much more rocket-like than would suit the constitution of a man. A powerful spring will doubtless raise a miniature pair of wings, but can the machinery be produced to renew and sustain its action? That is the question. The inventors propose to do this with a small steam-engine; but the weight of steam-power as constructed at present is the insuperable obstacle. It is calculated that, to simply sustain an aerial machine, bird-formed, weighing one ton, cargo included, a steam-engine of 108 horse-power, would be required, and that to propel it while suspended, so as to navigate the air, would require 2000 horse-power engines. If we estimate that these would weigh 300 tons, we cannot fail to perceive how difficult it appears to solve the problem by employing steam-power to direct the movements of an artificial bird. If, however, this principle is so easy of practice, why does M. Nadar introduce his great balloon instead of his little screw?

As it is only by comparison with previous constructions that a proper idea can be formed of the magnitude of the "Géant," let us refer to the annals of aeronautics, and reproduce a few figures showing the dimensions of giant balloons of more ancient date. We find that on Monday, January 19th, 1784, the beautifully painted and enormous balloon called "La Fleselle" ascended at Lyons, carrying in its gallery M. Joseph Montgolfier, M. Pilatre de Rosier, Count de Laurencin, Count de Dampierre, Prince Charles de Ligne, Count de Laporte d'Angleport, and M. Fontaine. The balloon was above 100 feet in diameter, and weighed, when charged with its luggage, 1600 pounds. The cubic contents of the "Géant" are 215,363 cubic feet; but the contents of "La Fleselle" must have been more than double that of M. Nadar's balloon. Again, on Wednesday, June 23, 1784, M. Pilatre de Rosier and M. Prout ascended with a fire balloon 91 feet high and 79 feet in diameter, its capacity being 270,000 cubic feet; and in later times, in 1835, the "Aerial Ship" of Count Lennox was exhibited at Vauxhall Gardens. This stupendous machine was 170 feet long by 45 feet diameter—a cylindrical form of this size would contain 270,363 cubic feet.

The possibility of guiding balloons is not only derided by Parisian savans, but by every man of common sense. When we remember that the mean rate of atmospheric currents is about twenty-five miles an hour, we know that, to overcome this and propel an *aérostat*, even at a speed of ten miles an hour, a propeller is required that would move a balloon thirty-five miles an hour in a calm atmosphere. The agency that could be brought to bear to overcome this average rate of air currents it is difficult to conceive. Allowing

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SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

THE last number of the *Astronomische Nachrichten* contains three sets of elements of the newly discovered minor planet (79), and two ephemerides—the former communicated by MM. Oppolzer, Engelmann, and Tischler, respectively. We give Engelmann's, between whose elements and Tischler's there is a remarkable agreement:—

Epoch 1863. Nov. 15.0. Berlin mean noon.	
M ^o	349° 16' 2.3"
π	44 28 57.9
Ω	206 42 49.8
i	4 36 29.4
φ	11 15 59.3
log. a	0.387845.
μ	929.4780.

EPHEMERIS.

Berlin mean noon.

1863.	R.A.	Dec.
	H. M. S.	
Dec. 6	0 37 15	+2° 45.8
8	38 47	50.8
10	40 26	2 56.6
12	42 11	3 3.4
14	44 2	10.9
16	45 58	19.1
18	48 0	28.1
20	50 8	37.7
22	52 21	48.0
24	54 40	3 58.9
26	57 3	4 10.4
28	0 59 34	+4 22.4

MR. KNOTT, our eminent variable star observer, has communicated a letter to the *Astronomical Register* announcing the duplicity of ψ^2 Orionis, the mean place for 1865 of which is a 5h. 19m. 46s. $\delta + 2^\circ 58'6''$. His instrument is a refractor 7.75 in. aperture: so that those of our readers who have instruments of equal size should look to it. He observes—"It may be well to remark that the double star Struve 712 (Hersch. I. 53) precedes by about 18 seconds, 10' S. Two sets of wire micrometer measures in February last yielded the following results:—Position, $322^\circ 43'$. Distance $2''.95$, the distance being rather doubtful, on account of the faintness of the small star. I was much struck with the fine blue colour of the *comes*, which I estimated to be of about the 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ magnitude." The Rev. W. R. Dawes also communicates to the same periodical the following measures of γ^2 Andromedæ, that crucial test for all but the finest instruments. The observations were made with a filar micrometer, on his Alvan Clarke 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. Refractor:—

$$A \text{ \& } \frac{B+C}{2}$$

P = $64^\circ 20'$; obs. 5; w. 46; D = $10'' 470$; obs. 6; w. 31.

$$\frac{B+C}{2}$$

P = $107^\circ 70'$; obs. 5; w. 38; C = $0'' 588$; obs. 6; w. 44. B & C clearly divided with power 480; B, greenish yellow; C, bluish green.

IN the third fascicule of vol. ix. of the *Memoires del reale Istituto de Lombardia* appears a memoir by Magrini on atmospheric electricity.

THE recent numbers of the *Atti della Scienza Italiana* contain memoirs by Carnel on the female flower of *Arum*; by Passerini and Georgio on Carbonic Acid; Stoppani on the Geological Map of Mont Blanc; Buzzoni on the Microscopical Structure of Eggs; Gustaldi on new specimens of *Anthracotheurium*, *Balanoptera*, and *Mastodon*; Sava on original Oceanic Formations; Stoppani on the Correlation of the Beds on both sides of the Alps; Carnel on Italian Crucifers; Stoppani on Lacustrine Habitations in the Lombard Lakes; Roudani and Passerini on Spori as a Cause of Malaria; and Craveri on Meteorological Observations made at Bra in 1862.

PROCEEDINGS OF FOREIGN ACADEMIES.

PARIS.

Societe Geologique de France. May to June:—Barrande—"Primordial Fauna near Hof, in Bavaria." Leymerie—"Garumnian System." Barrande—"Representation of the Bohemian Colonies in the Silurian basin of the north-west of France, and in Spain." Bourgeois—"On Chipped Flints found at Pont Levoy (Loire et Cher)." Thomassy—"Supplement to the Practical Geology of Louisiana (Ile Petit Anse)." Melleville—"On the Diluvium Deposits." Meugy—"On a New Bed of Phosphate of Lime." Coquand—"On the Jurassic Strata of Provence, and especially on their upper beds." De Verneuil—"On the Sources of the Nile." Cornuel—"On the Limit of the Two Beds of Lower Greensand in the Paris Basin, and on the Relations of its Neocomian Beds with those of the Mediterranean Basin." Rochébrune—"On two new Species from the Chalk of La Charente." Barrande—"Trilobites." Delessé and Laugel—"Review of Géol-

ogy for 1861." Binkhorst—"Gasteropoda in the Mästricht Chalk." Hébert—"On the White Chalk and Chalk Marl in the Paris Basin, and on the Division of the Last Bed into Four Layers." De Chancourtois—"Classification of Simple Substances." Mercey—"Notes on the Chalk in the north of France." Capellini—"Geological Map of Spezia." Tournouër—"Note on the Presence of Nummulites in the *Natica crassatina* Beds of the Adour Basin." Pellat—"On the Falaises of Biarritz." Watelet—"On a Discovery of Lophiodons at Jouy (Aisne)." De Verneuil and Lartet—"Note on the Limestone containing *Lychnus*, near Segura (Aragon)." De Verneuil and Lartet—"Note on a Chipped Flint from the Drift near Madrid." Triger—"Sections of Railway Lines." Nogués—"Note on the Lower Sedimentary and Crystalline Rocks of the Eastern Pyrenees." Goubert—"New Beds of Fossiliferous *Calcaire grossier*." Goubert—"Section of the new line from Paris to Montargis, at Corbeil." Goubert—"Section of the new Railway from St. Cyr to Dreux."

Academy of Sciences, Nov. 23. M. Velpeau in the chair.—THE following communications were read:—Valencennes—"On a Sternum of a Tortoise derived from the Gypsum Hills of Sannois and Argenteuil." Becquerel—"Researches on the Determination of Elevated Temperatures" (a continuation). Pierre—"Experimental Researches on the Development of Wheat." Lestibondo—"On the Elementary Tissues of Vegetables." Chapelas—"On Shooting Stars and their Relations with the Atmosphere;" and "On Barometric Oscillations." Briot—"On the Dispersion of Light." Mathet—"On some Properties of Surfaces of Minimum Extent." Ballet—"Researches upon Consanguinary Alliances, and their Influence upon the Frequency of Deaf and Dumb Issue." Poggoli—"On the Treatment of Asthma by Static Electricity." Verrier—"On the Treatment of Spinal Deformities." Maiziere—"On the Astronomic Origin of Epidemics." Delcambre—"On his Machines for Composing and Distributing Type." Calvert—"On the Production of Oxide of Carbon under New Conditions." M. Cloez—"Experiments on the Production of Oxide of Carbon by the Action of Oxygen upon Pyrogallate of Potash." Friedel and Crafts—"On the Action of Alcohol and Compound Ethers."—M. Charles, in the name of the Geometrical Section, presented the following list of candidates for the place of correspondent, vacant by the death of M. Ostrogradsky:—M. Neumann, MM. Clausius, Helmholtz, Kirchhoff, Plücker, and Thomson. The perpetual Secretary presented in the names of the authors—1st. A work entitled "Medical Physiology of the Circulation of the Blood, based on a Graphical Study of the Movements of the Heart and Pulse, with its Application to Diseases of the Circulation," by M. E. J. Marey. (This work will be added, according to the wish of the author, to those sent in to compete for the Montyon prize of 1864.) 2ndly. A work by M. Marey—"On the Vines of the South of France." 3rdly. A work by M. Müller "Upon a Theory of Music founded on Geometric Considerations," which M. Duhamel has been requested to report upon.

BERLIN.

Academy of Sciences.—At the meeting of the Physico-Mathematical Section on the 12th October, Herr du Bois Reymond spoke "On the explanation of some Electromotive Anomalies apparently occurring in the Gastrocnemius Muscle of the Frog by means of the principle of Inclination Currents (Neigungsströme)." The following papers were also read:—Dove—"On the Formation of a Black Shining Body by the Combination of Colourless Transparent Ones." Dove—"On a new maximum Thermometer constructed by Geissler of Berlin." Peters—"On a new genus of Serpents, *Styporhynchus*, and on various other Amphibia."

At the General Meeting of the Academy on the 15th October, Herr Braun communicated a paper "On the genera of Marsiliaceæ, *Marsilia* and *Pilularia*."

At the General Meeting of the 22nd October, papers were read by Herr Magnus—"On the Condensation of Vapours on the Surfaces of Solid Bodies," and by Herr G. Rose—"On two new Falls of Meteors." Herr Parthez exhibited a photograph of plaster casts of the bodies of some of the inhabitants of Pompeii who were buried in the showers of ashes which destroyed that city, and gave an explanation of the way in which these casts were obtained.

At the meeting of the 29th October, the following papers were read:—Dirksen—"On the

that the most approved elongated form be adopted, with cones to lessen the atmospheric friction, still the resistance would be such that the fragile envelope would inevitably be crushed if the motive power were sufficient to force it against the mean current at the rate of ten miles per hour. If, then M. Nadar, or any other aeronaut, can direct an aerial vessel, he will indisputably find no lack of admirers and supporters in this country. Our native air travellers, not perceiving the *modus operandi* by which this can be effected, have prudently abstained from making the attempt. If M. Nadar will only show us how to do it, we will generously award the meed of praise; or if, by his *hélice*, he will cross the sea by springs or steam, then, in the lines of Darwin, we will poetically repeat:

"Soon shall thy arm, unconquer'd Steam! afar
Drag the slow barge, or drive the rapid car;
Or on wide waving wings expanded bear
The flying chariot through the streams of air.
Fair crews, triumphant, leaning from above,
Shall wave their fluttering kerchiefs as they move,
Or warrior bands alarm the gaping crowd,
And armies shrink beneath the shadowy cloud."

SPAIN'S EVIDENCE ON THE ANTIQUITY OF MAN.

THE discoveries of flint implements which have been made for the last few years in various localities in England and France have now been carried beyond the Pyrenees, by the researches of MM. Ed. de Verneuil and Louis Lartet. In a recent and important memoir which they have contributed to the *Société Géologique de France*, they have described these facts, the substance being as follows:—On each side of the granitic chain of the Guadarrama the quaternary deposits are spread over a vast extent of ground, covering the plateau of Nueva Castilla even to the very gates of Madrid. On the slope of the valley of the river Manzanares, we can also see the drift deposits which Casiano de Prado considers to be inferior to the ordinary drift of the plateau. There have been found in these lower beds remains of ox, horse, several fragments of rhinoceros's teeth, and also evidences of the head of an elephant, of which portions of the molars were sufficiently well preserved to ensure their recognition as being identical with the existing elephant of Africa. It was in these deposits that MM. Verneuil and Lartet found the flint implement alluded to, of which the shape was identical with those of the *haches* from the drift of St. Acheul. In a descending order, the section presented the following beds:—1. vegetable earth; 2. yellow muddy sand; 3. reddish muddy sand, with pebbles; 4. alternation of dark green-coloured marls and micaceous sand, containing the *hache*; 5. grey micaceous sand, everywhere strongly coloured red and black by oxides of iron and manganese. The flint implement was not obtained in the presence of MM. Verneuil and Lartet, but by a Gallego workman prior to their visit. It was 15 centimètres long and 10 at its greatest width, the thickness nowhere exceeding 4 centimètres. One of its faces presents, as usual, a certain number of chipped, more or less concave and unequal, facets, while the other side, uniformly convex, appears to have been obtained at one blow, making a practical use of the conchoidal fracture of the flint. Along the whole extent of the contour of the *hache*, the edge is sharpened and crenulated by intentional blows; one end of the *hache* is elliptical, almost circular in its contour, whilst the other one, instead of being pointed, as in the Somme valley "celts," is of a rectilinear chisel shape, which originally must have been sharp.

Whilst *Elephas Africanus* is now confined to the central and southern parts of Europe, we must not forget that its remains have also been found in Sicily, both in caverns and in other quaternary deposits. Anca has found remains of *Elephas Africanus* in the caverns of S. Theodoro associated with those of *Hippopotamus Pentlandi*, *Elephas antiquus*, and with knives chipped from phonolite, which the contemporary with the extinct mammalia was forced to use, flint being absent in that locality. In Spain, however, we have proof of the existence of man contemporary with a species of an elephant which is now locally extinct in Europe; and it is most interesting to compare the extinct fauna of the quaternaries of Spain with some existing African forms. On the very morning when the two French geologists communicated this note to the Paris Geological Society, they received information from M. de Prado of the discovery of a second *hache*. Before dismissing this subject we may remark that flint implements have lately been ploughed up near Lake Erie in Canada.

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literary importance of the Roman Lawyer Cælius Papinianus." Schott—"On the Kirghiz Tribes, properly so-called." Peters—"Further communications on new Batrachians." Lepsius—"Remarks on the importance of M. E. de Rougé's work, 'Inscription historique du roi Pianchi-Mériamoun.'"

LEARNED SOCIETIES.

Linnean Society, Nov. 19. George Benthall, Esq., President, in the chair. F. Du Cane Godman, Esq., and G. O. St. Brody, Esq., were elected Fellows.—The following papers were read:—1. "Note on the Structure and Mode of Dehiscence of the Legumes of *Pentacthura macrophylla*, Beuth," by Daniel Oliver, Esq., F.R.S., and L.S., Professor of Botany, University College, London. 2. A Letter from W. Archer, Esq., F.L.S., to Sir W. J. Hooker, giving an account of some very remarkable Tasmanian Fern-Trees, with many crowns. 3. "Memorandum on a presumed case of Parthenogenesis in *Zanthoxylum alatum*, Roxb.," by Daniel Hanbury, Esq., F.L.S.—At the special meeting which followed the ordinary one, Robert Heward, Esq., F.L.S., was unanimously elected to fill a vacancy in the council, caused by the death of Beriah Botfield, Esq., M.P.

Zoological Society, Nov. 24. John Gould, Esq., F.R.S., in the chair.—PROFESSOR TENNANT exhibited a fossil egg of the *Apyroris maxina*, stated to have been obtained from a depth of forty feet in some iron mines in Madagascar.—A letter was read from Dr. Shortt relating to a singular habit of the Frugivorous Bats of India, which were stated to have been witnessed in the act of catching fishes out of a tank. The Secretary exhibited a sample of a naturally variegated sheep's wool from Ohio, forwarded by Mr. J. P. Hazard through Mr. A. R. Weld.—An extract of a letter, addressed by Dr. Geo. Bennett to the Secretary, respecting the Kagu of New Caledonia was read to the meeting.—Mr. Buckland made some remarks on his mode of treating a living porpoise during its conveyance to the Society's Gardens.—A paper was read by Dr. Bowerbank, F.R.S., "On the Genus *Spongilla*," in which full descriptions of twenty-one species of that genus were given.—Mr. H. W. Bates read some notes on a collection of insects obtained in Madagascar by Mr. Caldwell, and entered at some length into the question of the origin of the peculiar fauna of that island.—Mr. A. R. Wallace read a communication "On the Birds of the Islands of Timor Flores and Lombok, and on the relations of the Fauna of these islands to India and Australia."—A paper was read by Mr. Spence Bate giving descriptions of some new Australian Crustaceans, collected by G. F. Angus Esq., amongst which was a very beautifully coloured new form allied to Hippolyte proposed to be called *Angasia pavonina*. Communications were also read from Mr. J. Y. Johnson "On a new Flexible Coral from Madeira of the Genus *Juncella*," and by Mr. Arthur Adams "On a new Genus and twelve new Species of Mollusca."

Society of Arts, Dec. 2. Dr. W. A. Miller, F.R.S., Professor of Chemistry, King's College, London, in the chair.—The paper read was "On Magnetic Electricity, and its application to Light-house Purposes," by Mr. F. H. Holmes.

We shall give this valuable paper at full length next week.

Anthropological Society, Nov. 17. Sir Charles Nicholson, Bart., V.P., President, in the chair. The following new Members were elected:—Augustus S. Wilkins, Esq., Alfred S. Rogers, Esq., George Boulton, Esq., George Nesbitt, Esq., Spyridon Glaukopides, Esq., J. Maitland, Esq. The following Corresponding Members were elected:—Prof. Carl Vogt, Geneva; George Pouchet, Rouen. The following Local Secretaries were elected:—Edward Bogge, Esq., Vancouver's Island; S. Stafford Allen, Esq., Egypt; Dr. Farquharson, Stockton-on-Tees.—A PAPER was read on "The Negro's Place in Nature," by Dr. James Hunt, President. The author commenced by remarking that this subject had never been discussed before a scientific audience in this metropolis. In France, in America, and in Germany, the physical and mental characters of the negro have been frequently discussed, and England alone has neglected to pay that attention to the question which its importance demands. He dwelt chiefly on the physical, mental, and moral characters of the negro, but did not hesitate to make such practical deductions as appeared warranted from the facts we now have at hand, and trusted that a fair and open discus-

sion of this subject may eventually be the means of removing much of the misconception which appears to prevail on this subject both in the minds of the public and too frequently in the minds of scientific men. Africa contains, like every other continent, a large number of different races; and these have become very much mixed. He would not enter into any disquisition as to the great diversity of physical conformation that is found in different races, but should simply say that his remarks would be confined to the typical woolly-headed negro. Not only is there a large amount of mixed blood in Africa, but there are also apparently races of very different physical characters; and, in as far as they approach the typical negro, so far would his remarks apply to them. He excluded entirely from consideration all those who have European, Asiatic, Moorish, or Berber blood in their veins. He dwelt much on the analogies existing between the negro and the anthropoid apes; but these analogies did not necessarily involve relationship. The negro race, in some of its characters, is the lowest of existing races, while in others it approaches the highest type of European; and this is the case with other savage races. We find the same thing in the anthropoid apes, where some species resemble man in one character, and some in another. The average height of the negro is less than that of the European, and, although there are occasionally exceptions, the skeleton of the negro is generally heavier, and the bones larger and thicker in proportion to the muscles than those of the European. The bones are also whiter, from the greater abundance of calcareous salts. The thorax is generally laterally compressed, and, in thin individuals, presents a cylindrical form, and is smaller in proportion to the extremities. The extremities of the negro differ from other races more by proportion than by form: the arm usually reaches below the middle of the femur. The leg is on the whole longer, but is made to look short on account of the ankle being only between $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. to $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. above the ground; this character is often seen in mulattoes. The foot is flat, and the heel is both flat and long. Burmeister has pointed out the resemblance of the foot and the position of the toes of the negro to those of the ape. The toes are small, the first separated from the second by a free space. Many observers have noticed the fact that the negro frequently uses the great toe as a thumb. The knees are rather bent, the calves weak, and the upper part of the thigh rather thin. The upper thigh-bone of the negro has not so decided a resemblance to the ape as that of the bushman. He rarely stands quite upright; his short neck and large development of the cervical muscles give great strength to the neck, enabling him to fight like a ram, or carry large weights on his head. The shoulders, arms, and legs are all weak in comparison. The hand is always relatively larger than in the European: the palm is flat, the thumb narrow, long, and very weak. The humerus and the femur in the negro and European of equal height are shorter in the negro than in the European: while the tibia, the foot, the radius, and the hand are more elongated than in the negro race. That the fingers and arms are longer has long been affirmed; but we have to thank Dr. Pruner Bey for the absolute proof. The great distinguishing characters of the negro are the following:—The forehead is flat, low, and laterally compressed. The nose and whole face is flattened, and the negro thus has a facial angle generally between 70 and 75 degs., occasionally only 65 degs. The nasal cavities and the orbits are spacious. The skull is very hard and unusually thick. The coronal region is arched, but not so much developed as in the European woman. The posterior portion of the skull is increased, however, in proportion to that of the anterior being diminished. The unequal development of the anterior lobes is not the sole cause of the psychological inequalities of human races. In the superior, or frontal races, the cranial sutures close much later than in the inferior or occipital races. The frontal races are superior, not simply from the form of the skull, but because they have absolutely a more voluminous brain. The frontal cavity being much larger than the occipital, a great loss of space is caused by the depression of the anterior region, which is not compensated for by the increase of the occipital region. M. Gratiolet has also observed that in the frontal races the sutures of the cranium do not close so early as in the occipital or inferior race. From these researches it appears that in the negro the growth of the brain is sooner arrested than in the European. The premature union of the bones of the skull may give a clue to much of the mental inferiority which is seen in the negro race. There

can be no doubt that at puberty a great change takes place in relation to psychical development; but in the negro there appears to be an arrested development of the brain exactly harmonising with the physical formation. Young negro children are nearly as intelligent as European children; but the older they grow the less intelligent they become. They exhibit, when young, an animal liveliness for play and tricks far surpassing the European child. The young ape's skull resembles more the negro's head than the aged ape: thus showing a striking analogy in their craniological development. The head of the negro is the best type of the long skull, with small development of the frontal region. The form of the pelvis is narrow, conical, or cuneiform, and small in all its diameters. Vrolik has asserted that the pelvis of the male negro bears a great resemblance to that of the lower mammalia. With respect to the capacity of the cranium of the negro, great difference of opinion has prevailed. Tiedemann's researches, although very limited, have until recently been accepted as satisfactory. All recent researches have, however, done much to show that Tiedemann's investigations are not only unsatisfactory, but that his conclusion is not warranted by the facts which we now have at hand. Blumenbach's, Knox's, and Lawrence's conclusions did not accord with Tiedemann's. But the most satisfactory researches on this point are those made by the late Dr. Morton of America, and his successor, Dr. J. A. Meigs of Philadelphia. Dr. Meigs, in following out the researches of his predecessor, has found that, in size of the brain, the negro comes after the European, Fin, Syro-Egyptian, Mongol, Malay, the Semitic, American Indian, and the Esquimaux; but that the brain of the negro race takes precedence of the ancient civilized races of America, the Egyptian of all periods, the Hindoo, the Hottentot, the Australian, and the negroes of Polynesia. Thus we see that the negro has at least six well-defined races above him and six below him, taking the internal cavity of the brain as a test. Tiedemann affirmed that the brain of the negro did not resemble that of the orang-utan more than that of the European, except in the more symmetrical distribution of the gyri and sulci. Tiedemann also denied Sömmerring's assertion that the nerves of the negro are larger, in proportion to the brain, than in the European; but Pruner Bey has confirmed Sömmerring's opinion. It has been found that the grey substance of the brain of a negro is of a darker colour than that of the European, that the whole brain has a smoky tint, and that the *pia mater* contains brown spots, which are never found in the brain of a European. M. Broca has recently had an opportunity of confirming the truth of this statement. With regard to the convolutions, there is unanimous testimony that the convolutions of the brain of the negro are less numerous and more massive than in the European. Waitz thinks that the only resemblance of the negro's brain to that of the ape is limited to this point. Some observers have thought they have detected a great resemblance between the development of the temporal lobe in the negro and ape; but much further observation is required on this important subject. The author then went on to treat of the dental distinctions between the negro and European, and of the physiological distinction; and then examined the psychological development of the negro races, quoting, in support of his views, Consuls Hutchinson and Burton, Count Göws, M. Du Chaillu, Hamilton Smith, Van Amringe, Burmeister, Winwood Reade, and Drs. Carl Vogt, Van Evrue, Büchner, and Pruner-Bey, and concluded with the general deductions:—

"1. That there is as good reason for classifying the negro as a distinct species from the European as there is for making the ass a distinct species from the zebra; and, if we take intelligence into consideration in classification, there is a far greater difference between the negro and European than between the gorilla and chimpanzee. 2. That the analogies are far more numerous between the negro and apes than between the European and apes. 3. That the negro is inferior, intellectually, to the European. 4. That the negro is more humanized when in his natural subordination to the European than under any other circumstances. 5. That the negro race can only be humanized and civilized by Europeans. 6. That European civilization is not suited to the negro's requirements or character."

Mr. Bouverie Pusey observed many of the coloured men negrophilists had selected were mulattoes, and commented on the ability of Toussaint de l'Ouverture.

Sir Charles Nicholson observed that the parasitic animals on negroes were distinct from those

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of Europeans, according to the observations of Mr. Sharpe Macleay. He would be very glad to have this fact corroborated.

Dr. Seemann considered the darkest negroes he had ever seen to be from Nubia; he agreed with the observations of Dr. Hunt as to the low moral character of the negroes.

Mr. Winwood Reade remarked on the great influence which the Mohammedan conquerors of Africa possessed over the minds of the Africans, who never had been able to originate any civilization of their own. The slave-trade should be abolished in Africa.

Dr. Murie stated that the entozoa of nations depended chiefly on the food.

Mr. Louis Fraser corroborated the statement of Dr. Hunt with respect to the immorality of the negroes.

After some observations from Mr. Reddie and Mr. Charlesworth, the meeting was adjourned.

Institution of Civil Engineers, Nov. 24 and Dec. 1. John Hawkshaw, Esq., President, in the chair.—THE discussion upon 'Mr. Morshead's paper on "Duty of Cornish Pumping Engines"' was continued throughout both meetings, but not being concluded, the publication of the abstract is deferred. At the monthly ballot, the following candidates were balloted for and duly elected:—Messrs. W. Bell, T. O. Donaldson, and E. A. Jeffreys, as Members; and Messrs. J. O. Andrews, C. W. Archibald, E. H. Carbutt, G. H. Cottam, J. S. Croucher, W. Elliot, R. Fogg, A. Fraser, W. J. W. Heath, G. Kilgour, and P. P. Marshall, as Associates.

Royal Asiatic Society, Nov. 30. The first General Meeting of the Session 1863-4 was held to-day, the Right Hon. Viscount Strangford, President, in the chair.—A PAPER by Colonel F. J. Goldsmid was read "On the Preservation of National Literature in the East." The subject resolves itself, practically, into the following question: "Which was the best alphabet to be countenanced by Government in the case of the important Sindi nationality, whose language had not yet been reduced to systematic writing?" The author gives his reasons for the result arrived at, and now adopted in the government schools of the province—viz., a specially modified Arabic alphabet.

Literary and Philosophical Society of Manchester. Microscopical Section:—Annual Meeting, May 18th. A. G. Latham, Esq., in the chair. The Annual Report of the Section for Session 1862-63 was read, and officers appointed for the ensuing Session.

A communication on "The Structure of the Cotton Fibre," by Mr. Charles O'Neill, F.C.S., was then read, in which the author states that chloride of zinc, as neutral as it could be made by digesting with metallic zinc, and also diluted sulphuric acid, would, under favourable circumstances, exhibit all the phenomena described by the author in his first communication. Chloride of zinc, however, required to be heated to its boiling point, and sulphuric acid appeared very capricious in its action. The appearances produced by these re-agents lead him to the same conclusions with regard to the structure of cotton; but he is more decidedly of opinion than he was before that the so-called medullary matter is in reality a shrunk membrane similar in appearance to the membrane in dried quills. Finding that all known solvents of cotton gave the same appearances, Mr. O'Neill tried the action of solvents on gun-cotton, and found a further confirmation in the action of ether upon it. It is well known that there are two modifications of gun-cotton, the one soluble, the other insoluble in ether; but the author finds three varieties—(1.) Soluble in ether, but insoluble in ammoniuret of copper; (2.) Insoluble in ether, but soluble or dilutable in ammoniuret of copper; and, (3.) Perfectly unacted upon either by ether or ammoniuret of copper. Operating on the first variety on the stage of the microscope with ordinary ether, it is almost instantly dissolved with no evidence of structure, until, after a while, careful observation shows some remains of spiral vessels. By gradually diluting the ether with alcohol, the action is slackened until a point is arrived at when exactly the same phenomena are produced as by the copper solution. About two-thirds ether and one-third alcohol were found to be a suitable mixture; but this will evidently vary with different preparations. Mr. O'Neill considers the number of turns of one spiral to be certainly not greater than from 1100 to 1300 in the inch, and generally much less than this, the

mean of many countings running between 600 and 700 for the contracted fibre.

Mr. A. G. Latham made the following communication:—It may be remembered that some few months ago I proposed to this Section as a subject for discussion, "The Causes of the Metallic Lustre of the Scales on the Wings of certain Moths." I then suggested that the metallic markings, and lustre of the scales themselves forming these markings, are consequent on the fact of the scales containing a particular pigment or colouring matter, while other members thought it might proceed solely from light reflected from the irregular surfaces of the scales. On examining lately, by transmitted light, the wings on one of the clear-winged moths—*Sesia tipuliformis*—I found on the transparent portion of the wing, and in addition to the markings on the wing, certain other scales of battledore form and perfectly transparent. An examination with a higher power showed these scales to be highly striate, and therefore in the most proper condition for producing, according to the advocates of the theory I oppose, metallic lustre and metallic markings; and that they are in a condition to produce these effects, were the theory correct, is further shown on examination by reflected light—when, as might be expected from the markings, the scales are most beautifully opalescent, but, wanting internal pigment, give out no metallic markings on the wing, and a strong proof is, therefore, given in favour of the theory broached by me.

Ordinary Meeting. Oct. 19. Professor W. C. Williamson, F.R.S., in the chair.—THE following paper "On Transparent Injections," by Messrs. J. G. Dale, F.C.S., and Thomas Davies, was read by the Secretary. After enumerating the various desiderata of a transparent injecting fluid, it was observed that soluble colouring matters failed to fulfil them, owing to the action of endosmos, causing them merely to dye the tissue sought to be injected. This defect is shown to be remedied by the use of insoluble colouring matters in an exceedingly fine state of subdivision, which can only be prepared by precipitation under constant agitation; and the following recipe is stated to succeed admirably, showing vessels of $\frac{1}{16}$ of an inch, with a clear outline even under a $\frac{1}{2}$ objective, without any grain or extravasation of the colouring matter:—Take 180 grains best carmine, $\frac{1}{2}$ fluid oz. ammonia, com. strength, SG 0.92, or 15 degrees ammonia meter, 3 to 4 oz. distilled water. Put into a small flask, and allow to digest without heat 24 to 36 hours, or until the carmine is dissolved. Then take a Winchester quart bottle, and with a diamond mark upon it the spot to which 16 oz. of water extend. The coloured solution must then be filtered into the bottle, and to this pure water must be added until the whole is equal to 16 oz. Next dissolve 600 grains in potash alum in about 10 fluid oz. of water, and add to this, under constant boiling, a solution of carbonate of sodium, until a slight permanent precipitate is produced. Filter and add water up to 16 fluid oz. Boil, and add this solution while boiling to the cold ammoniacal solution of carmine in the Winchester quart, and shake vigorously for a few minutes. A drop now placed upon white filtering paper should show no colouring ring; should it do so the whole must be rejected. Supposing the precipitation to be complete, or very nearly so, shake vigorously for half an hour, and allow to stand till quite cold; the shaking must then be renewed and the bottle filled up with cold water. After allowing the precipitate to settle for a day, draw off the clear supernatant fluid with a syphon. Repeat the washing till the clear fluid gives little or no precipitate with chloride of barium. So much water must be left with the fluid that at last it must measure 40 fluid oz. For the injection fluid take 24 oz. of the above coloured fluid, and 3 oz. of good gelatine; allow these to remain together all night, then dissolve by the heat of a water bath, after which it should be strained through fine muslins. On injecting, the ordinary precautions for a gelatine injection are alone necessary.

Professor Williamson stated that, owing to the unexpected absence of his esteemed friend Mr. Sidebotham, he had been suddenly called upon to give the members of the society an address at the opening of the session. With so short a warning it was not an easy task; still, as a few stimulating words might lead to extra exertion, he would make a few remarks on the present position of the microscopic observers. Their numbers in Manchester were necessarily small compared with London. Perhaps there were not twenty microscopists in this city really at work; few were able to devote the time to the energetic and laborious

efforts which original investigation required, and of these fewer had the talent, or even the ambition, to undertake what requires weeks, months, nay, often years of arduous toil. The hindrances are increased by the fact that there is rarely a definite end sufficiently certain of attainment in the way of a new discovery, calculated to repay the expenditure of labour. Hence, in a small society like ours, we cannot expect great or brilliant results. But further, the present is not an epoch like that when Ehrenberg revolutionized an entire branch of science, or when Greu laid the foundations of vegetable physiology, and Malpigi that of the animal kingdom. These men revealed entirely new fields of enquiry. But, though no such new worlds of histology are opened out to us, there are such a multitude of secondary details requiring elucidation, that we cannot take up a plant or insect without stumbling upon a multiplicity of problems awaiting investigation. One shrewd observer, when eating his orange, discovers upon it some brown scales; he follows up the inquiry they suggest, and the result is an elaborate paper on the coccus of the orange. Even where members are not prepared for original researches, they still may do excellent service by examining the ground gone over by other men, whose views require corroboration before their somewhat startling conclusions can be unhesitatingly received. He would refer to such inquiries as Dr. Hincks's on the conversion of the protoplasm of the volvox into free moving Amœbæ, and to those of Dr. Balbiani on the sexuality of the Polygastrica, as illustrations. These researches require re-examination and further confirmation; and, whilst the latter would give the results attained a fixed place in scientific annals, their rejection, should they prove erroneous, would remove stumbling-blocks out of the way. In fact, all discoveries required careful re-investigation. Observers were often too sanguine, and drew large inductions from small and defective data; and this work of supervision was one in which our members might successfully engage. He also thought it desirable to warn the members against the contracting tendencies of minute microscopic research as opposed to philosophic breadth. If men limit their ambition to resolving the small markings of diatoms apart from the great physiological questions to which they bear relation, they will inevitably succumb to this paralyzing influence. They must be careful not to lose themselves in the mere examination of details, but to keep in view that the discovery of general laws should be their object, to the attainment of which the former was only a means. Mere details were useful, but to limit our attention to them crippled the intellect, and rendered it unable to combine them and trace out their connexion with general laws. It was by keeping the attention fixed on this higher object that placed our most distinguished histologists on the pedestals they now occupy—and, as it is the duty of every man to do what he does in the best manner he can, it behoves all members to keep this lofty aim carefully in view. The results would then not only advance science and benefit their fellow-men, but, if worldly fame were their object, they would reap it in the fullest measure to which they were entitled.

Physical and Mathematical Section. Nov. 12. E. W. Binney, F.R.S., Vice-President, in the chair.—A PAPER was read by Mr. J. Atkinson, F.G.S., "On the Construction of Bi-focal Lenses for Spectacles."

Mr. Baxendell read the following extracts of a letter from Mr. Heelis, F.R.A.S., dated St. George's Channel, October 23, 1863:—"On the 17th October, while running between Cape de Gatte and Malaga, in long. $2^{\circ} 49' W.$, lat. $36^{\circ} 19' 1'' N.$, the captain and I were observing the planet Venus, which was visible to the naked eye, and showed her crescent beautifully in one of the ship's signal-telescopes, when the quarter-master at the con suddenly, at 10.45 A.M., called my attention to an object in the sky; I looked up and saw a meteor nearly, I should think, twice as bright as Venus, and apparently consisting of two nuclei, with a bright streak joining them, the whole about a degree in length, passing rapidly across the sky in a due easterly direction. It disappeared at an angle of 40° from the horizon, measured by the captain's sextant, which happened to be on deck. The sky was cloudless and very clear. From inquiries from the quarter-master, it appears that he, while looking aloft for Venus, first saw it about 10° or 15° S. of the zenith, and the duration of the apparition was, as nearly as I could judge, about fifteen seconds. On the two preceding nights we had many magnificent meteors; and on our passage across the bay, on the 21st and 22nd instant, have

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since seen several more, notwithstanding the moonlight. At the time of the appearance of the meteor we were nearly abreast of the highest peak of the Sierra Nevada, which was covered with snow. The wind and sea were both calm. Venus was observed every day until the 19th, on which day she was so bright that the captain took her altitude with the sextant soon after her meridian passage. A little before noon on this day we rounded Cape St. Vincent, but shortly before doing so, and when off Cape Sagres, we ran through several large patches of the gulf weed, or *fucus natans*. I could not be mistaken in this weed, and my judgment was corroborated by the captain, who is an old East Indian commander, and who told me also, but without mentioning dates, that he has on several occasions seen this weed in the same place before, and even has at times seen it inside the Gut of Gibraltar. If this be so, the statement which is, if I remember rightly, made by Maury, that it is hardly ever found except on the right of the axis of the Gulf stream, must be incorrect, and drains of the stream must find their way more commonly than is generally imagined on to the coast of Portugal. Connected, as I think, with this, we have had dense fogs along the coast, from Cape Espichel to this side of Cape Finisterre, clearing during the day, but settling down in the afternoon and night, except off Finisterre, where the sun seemed unable to pierce them. On the 9th September, on the passage up from Gibraltar to Genoa, we were in the morning off the Hyeres Islands, near Toulon, our distance from them being about twelve miles. We steered E.N.E. by compass all day until 7 P.M., the long. at noon being by chron. $60^{\circ} 54' E.$, lat. observed $43^{\circ} 00'$, variation by amplitude of the sun at sunrise, including deviation, $160^{\circ} 26' W.$ At sundown, Cape Della Mele being on the port bow, and the land composed of spurs of the Maritime Alps, being about fifteen miles distant, we found by an observation of Polaris that the variation, including deviation as before, had increased to 22° ; and the captain told me that he had on three or four other occasions found the same thing, or rather had found that the ship, steered by compass, had not at this particular point made a correct course, but that he had always before set the error down to a strong current, which he had assumed to sweep along the coast. This seems a well-authenticated case of error induced in highly magnetized compasses by these mountains. From the course steered by small wooden coasters in company with us, we gathered that their compasses were not affected. Working the ship's dead reckoning from noon, I place her at the time of the morning amplitude in lat. $42^{\circ} 25' 1''$, long. $6^{\circ} 07' 7'' E.$, and at night, when the variation was ascertained by an observation of Polaris, in lat. $43^{\circ} 34'$, long. $7^{\circ} 34' E.$

Mr. Baxendell read a paper "On a New Variable Star T Aquile."—"On the night of the 28th of July last, I observed that the star No. 4078 of Zone + 15° of the "Bonner Sternverzeichniss" was about one magnitude and a quarter less than its neighbour No. 4079, although on the night of the 25th of June I had noted down these two stars as being nearly equal in brightness. Afterwards, on referring to my notes of reviews of this part of the heavens, made at Mr. Worthington's observatory on August 19, 1859, and June 18, 1860, I found that at the former date both these stars were seen, and were then nearly equal in magnitude, but that a third star, No. 4077, was invisible, while under the latter date it is stated that No. 4077 was then visible, and estimated to be of the ninth magnitude; but no mention is made of the two stars Nos. 4078 and 4079. I have since made a careful examination of the positions of these and some of the neighbouring stars, and have satisfied myself that the star seen on June 18th, 1860, was No. 4079, and not No. 4077, as was then supposed, and that therefore both 4077 and 4078 were at that time invisible, or, at all events, below the eleventh magnitude. After the 28th of July last No. 4078 gradually diminished in brightness until about the 24th of August, when it passed a minimum. It has since increased, and attained a maximum about the 25th of October. Its magnitude at a minimum was 11.3, and at maximum 8.9, the range of variation being therefore 2.4 magnitudes. As the ratio of light employed in determining the magnitudes is 2.512, it follows that the brightness of the new variable is nine times greater at maximum than at minimum. The observations made since the 28th of July last, compared with those of August 19th, 1859, and June 18th, 1860, indicate a period of about four months. As two telescopic variables had been previously discovered in *Aquila*, the new variable will, according

to Professor Argelander's system of nomenclature, be denoted by the letter T. The place of T Aquilæ brought up to 1865 is 20h. 5m. $25^{\circ} 4s.$ + $15^{\circ} 13' 4''$.

Ordinary Meeting, Nov. 17. E. W. Binney, F.R.S., President, in the chair.—Mr. Samuel Barton Worthington, C.E., was elected an Ordinary Member of the Society.

Mr. F. R. Fairbank exhibited several specimens of flint implements which had been ploughed up near Lake Erie in Canada.

A paper was read "On a New Method of Producing Carbonic Oxide," by Dr. F. Crace Calvert, F.R.S.—"In 1820, my learned master, M. Chevreul, published a most interesting paper on various colouring matters, and drew the attention of the scientific world at that time to the property which most colouring matters possessed of absorbing oxygen under the influence of alkalies; and, although he demonstrated the great advantage possessed by gallic and pyrogallic acids as agents for analyzing the atmosphere, by the extraordinary rapidity with which they absorbed oxygen under the influence of alkalies, still this valuable information of M. Chevreul remained dormant for nearly twenty years, when Liebig again proved with what facility air could be analyzed by this method. I wish now to call your special attention to this mode of absorbing oxygen in a gas mixture, as it is considered by many chemists to be quite as accurate as those methods which are based upon the employment of phosphorus, or metallic copper as suggested by Gay-Lussac; but this is not correct, for I have observed that it contains a serious source of error, because, during the absorption of oxygen by the gallic or pyrogallic acid under the influence of alkalies, a certain quantity of a permanent and combustible gas is produced—viz., oxide of carbon. It was during a series of experiments which I had undertaken to verify a most interesting fact, published by M. Boussingault—viz., the production of oxide of carbon during vegetation under water, or the decomposition of carbonic acid under the influence of solar rays (see *Comptes-Rendus*, vol. 63, p. 862, 1862)—that I discovered that the oxide of carbon which M. Boussingault had obtained in his analysis of the gas mixture produced during vegetation, was not due, as he thinks, to the reduction of carbonic acid into oxide of carbon, but that this gas was a product of oxidation, or the result of the action of oxygen on the pyrogallic acid that he used for analyzing his gas mixtures. The following details of my experiments will, I trust, clearly prove this curious production of oxide of carbon:—1. If over a mercury trough 100 cubic centimetres of oxygen are introduced under a bell jar, together with pyrogallic acid and potash, although the greatest portion of the oxygen is rapidly absorbed, still, whatever number of hours the substances are left in contact, there will always remain a certain residue incapable of further absorption; and, on examining this residue, it will be found to burn with a blue flame, and to be converted thereby into carbonic acid, which compound is easily characterized. 2. If two litres of oxygen, free from any trace of carbonic acid, are made to pass through a solution of pyrogallate of potash placed in Liebig's bulb apparatus, and from thence over carefully prepared oxide of copper, heated to a dull red heat, carbonic acid will be found to issue from the apparatus, and can be collected and weighed. 3. If an unabsorbed portion of gas remaining in the receiver (Experiment, No. 1) be brought into contact with a solution of protochloride of copper, dissolved in hydrochloric acid or ammonia, the residue will be absorbed, which is an additional characteristic property of oxide of carbon, as indicated by M. Le Blanc. 4. If one volume of this residual gas be introduced into a eudiometer, and after being mixed with one volume of oxygen the mixture be exploded by an electrical spark, it is found that half the volume of oxygen employed has disappeared, and that the volume of carbonic acid formed is equal to that of the oxide of carbon introduced into the eudiometer. As to the quantity of oxide of carbon produced during these experiments, it depends firstly upon the concentration of the pyrogallate employed, and secondly upon its neutral or alkaline state, the minimum being with the acid liquor and the maximum with an alkaline. In taking the mean of ten distinct experiments, I found that 100 volumes of oxygen gave two volumes of oxide of carbon, but in some instances the proportion was as high as four per cent. The production of oxide of carbon also occurs when atmospheric air is substituted for oxygen, only the oxide of carbon is so much diluted by the nitrogen that its presence cannot be detected by several of the above

methods. But if, on the other hand, several quarts of air, carefully deprived of carbonic acid, are passed through an alkaline solution of pyrogallate, or gallate of soda, and from thence over some heated oxide of copper, carbonic acid will be found issuing from the apparatus, and can be easily characterized, and even weighed, as I have done in some experiments. It is, no doubt, owing to the difficulty of detecting a small quantity of oxide of carbon when diluted with nitrogen that the presence of that gas has not been observed before by chemists who have employed Chevreul's and Liebig's method of analyzing the atmosphere. M. Boussingault having observed the presence of a light carburetted hydrogen in the residuum which he obtained in analyzing the gases which were produced by vegetation under water, and under the influence of solar rays, I made careful and repeated efforts with the object of detecting it, but failed to do so. I therefore suspect that this gas was the result of decomposition of some of the organic substances present in his experiments."

A paper was read "On an Apparatus for Measuring Tensile Strengths, especially of Fibres," by Mr. Charles O'Neill, F.C.S.

Mr. O'Neill also read a paper entitled "Experiments and Observations upon Cotton."—The author gives about 400 experiments upon the length of cotton hairs measured separately by a simple process, which he fully described, and exhibited a diagram, upon an enlarged scale, showing the mean, maximum, and minimum lengths of the seventeen qualities of cotton experimented upon. The table below is a *résumé* of the experiments, but the author furnishes it in this abstract with the caution that, taken apart from the detailed measurements as given in the full paper, it may give rise to incorrect conclusions.

Name.	Price	Date.	Longest Fibre.	Mean Length.	Shortest Fibre.
Sea Island Edisto	s. d.	Dec., 1860	in.	in.	in.
Sea Island	2 2	Dec., 1860	2.00	1.680	1.35
Queensland Cotton	4 6	Mar., 1863	1.06	1.501	1.10
Sea Island	1 4	Dec., 1860	1.80	1.475	1.20
Egyptian	0 04	to 9th.	1.35	1.252	0.95
Egyptian fair	1 10	Mar., 1863	1.50	1.185	0.85
Maranham	1 10	Mar., 1863	1.40	1.220	0.95
Benquella	1 11	Mar., 1863	1.50	1.177	0.85
Pernambuco	0 84	Dec., 1860	1.35	1.127	0.85
Maranham	0 6	Dec., 1860	1.20	1.035	0.75
Mobile	0 7	Dec., 1860	1.25	1.042	0.70
Orleans	0 6	Dec., 1860	1.20	0.9925	0.80
Orleans (good middling)	1 10	Mar., 1863	1.15	0.970	0.85
Surat (fair Dholerah)	0 54	Dec., 1860	1.10	0.9425	0.75
Surat (Dholerah)	0 54	Dec., 1860	1.10	0.925	0.85
Surat (middling Comptah)	1 3	Mar., 1863	1.05	0.905	0.70

The author has determined the tensile strengths of the hairs of the various qualities of cotton by means of the apparatus described in the previous abstract, and has given, in a series of tables, the breaking weights in grains of every hair tested, with remarks upon them. The following table gives the mean and maximum strengths of the hairs; but, like the preceding table, it ought not to be taken apart from the detailed tables, where the particulars of the breaking of about twenty hairs of each kind of cotton are given:—

Name.	Mean Grains.	Maximum Grains.
Edisto Sea Island	83.0	142.5
Sea Island (good quality)	99.0	132.0
Benquella	100.0	218.8
Sea Island Cotton	102.0	203.0
Uplands	104.5	212.0
Surat (fair Dholerah)	105.8	215.5
Maranham	107.1	187.2
Egyptian (fair)	108.0	187.0
Mobile	118.8	172.3
Egyptian	127.2	191.0
Orleans	130.7	200.4
Pernambuco	140.5	251.1
Surat (Dholerah)	141.0	230.6
Maranham (good middling)	142.0	242.4
Queensland	147.6	246.2
Orleans (good middling)	147.7	244.0
Surat (middling Comptah)	163.7	280.2

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7th.
ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 2.—Albemarle Street. General Monthly Meeting of Members.
LONDON INSTITUTION, at 7.—Finsbury Circus. "On English Costumes:" Rev. H. Christmas.
MEDICAL SOCIETY, at 8.30.—32A, George Street, Hanover Square. Lettsomian Lecture. "On Midwifery and the Diseases of Women:" Dr. Routh.
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8th.
SYRO-EGYPTIAN SOCIETY, at 7.30.—22, Hart Street, Bloomsbury Square. "On Roman Mensuration in the Eastern Empire:" W. H. Black.
ETHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—4, St. Martin's Place, Charing Cross. 1. "Account of the Weddons, a Wild Tribe of Ceylon." A Tamil Native of that Island. 2. "On the Commixture of the Races of Man in the New World as affecting the Progress of Civilization:" John Crawford, F.R.S.
INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—25, Great George Street, Westminster. Continued Discussion upon Mr. Morshed's Paper on "Duty of the Cornish Pumping-Engine." And, if time permits, the following Paper will be read:—"On the Closing of Reclamation Banks:" J. M. Heppel, M.Inst.C.E.
ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 9.—11, Hanover Square. "On the Systematic Position of *Palamedes*:" W. K. Parker. "On the Breeding of the Mooruk in the Society's Gardens:" the Secretary. And other Papers.
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9th.
ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE, at 4.30.—4, St. Martin's Place, Trafalgar Square.

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SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—John Street, Adelphi. "Agricultural Progress: its Helps and its Hindrances:" J. Chalmers Morton, Esq. On this evening John Grey, Esq., of Dilston, will preside.

BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION, at 8.30.—32, Sackville Street, Piccadilly. "On Brixworth Church:" Mr. E. Roberts. "On Unpublished MS. Lives of Henry V.:" Mr. Saxe Bannister. "On the Discovery of a Well and other Roman Remains at St. Dunstan's Hill:" Mr. Blashill.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10th.

LONDON INSTITUTION, at 7.—Finsbury Circus. "On Organic Chemistry:" Professor Wanklyn. Syllabus:—Derivatives of Alcohol—Organo-metallic Bodies: Potassium-Ethyl, Sodium-Ethyl, Zinc-Ethyl, &c. Remarkable energy displayed by many Organo-metallic Bodies.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES, at 8.—Somerset House.

ROYAL SOCIETY, at 8.30.—Burlington House. "On the Spectra of some of the Chemical Elements:" W. Huggins. "On the Acids Derivable from the Cyanides of the Oxy-radicals of the Di and Triatomic Alcohols:" Maxwell Simpson, F.R.S.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11th.

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—Somerset House.

ART.

WINTER EXHIBITION OF SKETCHES AND STUDIES BY THE MEMBERS OF THE OLD WATER-COLOUR SOCIETY.

SKETCHES and Studies!—how many sketches, how few studies, are made now-a-days! Studies by the Old Masters were made for their own use, and not for the eye of the public—drawn upon odds and ends of paper and canvas, with any material most suitable for the immediate purpose in view. Broadly, they are either expressions of thought, or efforts to compass certain truths of form and colour, as yet only half perceived, or not rightly understood. Studies like these are now rare; but the practice of making them is not obsolete; and, even among the members of a body like the Old Water-Colour Society, who make use of a material which lends a charm to slightness, we may note some who make studies as a means to an end, and without reference to any public estimate of their value. William Hunt and Frederick W. Burton are conspicuous examples. The studies of William Hunt comprehend a great number of particular facts in nature, which have been studied less with reference to individual pictures than with a view to enlarge the general scope of his knowledge. The studies here exhibited by Frederick Burton have been undertaken as aids to the preparation or completion of some special work; and they are analagous to those which have been made by the best masters at all times. All good studies are similar in purpose to these, however much they may differ in character or in method; and they are produced without reference to public approval, and certainly without an eye to public exhibition. A gallery containing such studies is always a source of interest and gratification.

But the interest is lessened and the gratification alloyed by the presence of sketches which, however skilful they may be, bear no evidence of study, and the purpose of which is effected by their exhibition and sale.

Every season produces its crop of sketches culled from all parts of Europe. At the various conversazioni of the season they are exposed, in handsome folios and faultlessly mounted, to the admiring dilettanti for whose especial gratification one would suppose they had been executed. They are turned over one by one, with exclamations very significant of their value—"fresh," "charming," "lovely," "very sweet;" but we seldom hear the words, "real," "thorough," "comprehended," "understood." Water-colour sketches of the kind we are speaking of are often delightful and skilful, but they have been of little use in an educational point of view to their authors. They are generally the best works of their hands. The praise that accompanies them would be silent before the pen-and-ink scraps, so full of hidden knowledge, that served as memoranda for Turner and the capacity that is filled by them could hardly comprehend the method by which, through numberless dull and dreary studies of detail, all great artists increase their knowledge, and accomplish their work.

Although the distinction we have indicated is patent in this Exhibition, we must leave the reader to trace it for himself in the works which are therein submitted for his inspection. We shall merely direct attention to some of those drawings which are most remarkable in themselves, which are very rarely, if ever, to be seen at conversazioni, and which set before us the artist's plan or method of work.

The contributions by Wm. Hunt, Holland, Burton, Gilbert, and Alfred Fripp are all most interesting, valuable, and instructive. It is generally conceded, we believe, that Wm. Hunt is the greatest colourist now living in England; certainly the strength and harmony of his colour are very remarkable in this room. "Four Landscapes" (26) may be taken as an instance of his

power of investing the most common and unattractive subjects with an interest which whole folios of clever sketches utterly fail to inspire. One of these four studies (none of them is larger than the palm of the hand) is a bit of a farm-yard, just a gate and a paling, and a part of some farm buildings. There is not a figure nor an animal present; the yard itself is not even picturesque. There is absolutely nothing in it, save the glorious golden sunlight which streams in upon the yard. This gives to the scene its beauty; and a true sun picture it is, from the camera of the painter's brain. Look at the other scraps in this frame. There is hardly one of them that would not have been despised as a subject by a skilful artist; not one of them in which he would not have introduced figures, or cows, or some object of interest; and, looking to the marketable value of his drawing, he would have been right. But Hunt was utterly indifferent to the subject: he wanted to possess his mind with some fact of nature, which he there saw expressed—perhaps the luminous tint of the sky, perhaps the tone of the common land at his feet; and he painted it as he saw it, without selecting or caring for a good point of view, without troubling himself to make it pretty, or thinking of how it might please other people—only caring to penetrate the truth as far as he was able. And in this spirit good work is done; not necessarily by this method—all means are good, under the direction of the simple, unconscious, truth-seeking spirit. The studies by this painter in the Gallery, which are numerous, help us to understand how his eye has attained so subtle and keen a perception of the magical relations of colours to their opposites; he is never at fault when dealing with colour; let his subject be a head or an apple, a landscape, or an interior, we recognise it as being faithfully, temperately, and harmoniously coloured.

Let us now turn for a moment to the jottings and memoranda of another painter who has won for himself a position willingly recognised by the profession, whose recognition is the only one of much value to a true painter. Mr. Holland is chiefly known by his pictures of Venice and other continental towns, though he occasionally paints an English landscape. We see pictures of Venice every year by the score; but we usually regard them as mere maps of the place. How is it that we are always arrested by a picture or a sketch of the silent seaborne city when it is Holland's work? He does not allow us to think about it as a topographical plan of Venice; but takes us with him into the very heart of it; places us, so to speak, in the midst of the light that embraces it, as in a magic mirror, revealing to us the stateliness of the palaces, the gleaming of the tide, the unimaginable sky, the majesty of the silence. Holland did not learn to do this by producing a folio of sketches. By sketches he may have aided his impressions; but, as we may observe on these walls, they are what would be called exceedingly slight, often mere memoranda pencil notes, and rapidly-noted impressions of colour; they have been made for himself alone, and stored up as the capital garnered by his knowledge. Those who remember, or possess copies of the Landscape Annual illustrations of Portugal, may here see some of the sketches made by Holland for that work; and by examining them they will be able to judge of how little value they would be to an engraver unless they were interpreted first by the artist. Holland's method differs from that of Hunt, and his power is of a different kind; but his work is directed by a true artist faculty, and he has escaped that kind of mannerism which quickly overtakes every painter when he permits himself to work only upon the capital of already acquired knowledge, and ceases to be any longer a student.

The studies by F. W. Burton and John Gilbert differ from those we have spoken of less in motive than the wide distinction imposed by the subjects they treat would at first lead us to suppose. Their studies are made with reference to some picture they mean to execute. This method is adopted by them, in common with all figure-painters, and is absolutely necessary to the production of a good picture. They are usually the most interesting, and often the most valuable, records of a painter's career. The two painters of whom we are now speaking differ from each other as completely as did the earlier and later painters of the Flemish School. Gilbert's studies of "The King's Artillery at Marston Moor" and "The Baggage Waggons of an Army on March," florid, spirited, full of action and space, are better than the works which he afterwards painted from them. These, but more particularly the drawing of "The Christian Knight," show us what a painter Gil-

bert would have been had not his powers been, so to say, checked at this point, and turned to the use of illustrated newspapers and cheap periodicals. We doubt whether there has ever been a truer native painter in England than John Gilbert. It may be now too late to develop his powers; but this should not blind us to the presence of an artist mind which is incapable of being destroyed.

Burton's studies, on the contrary, are never suggestive; but careful, restrained, and truth-seeking, leading up to the subject that occupies his mind. His cartoon of the "Death of Jehoram" is a noble composition, most carefully studied in every part; it is spirited, barbaric, and dignified, as, dealing with the story of the kings of the wild tribes of Israel, it ought to be. Look, again, at a drawing of a head called "Early Need"—how few painters would have taken this child as a subject! Burton probably saw the lines in the child's face, created by want, and studied them,—not, assuredly, for any approval likely to fall to his share for this piece of work, but because he desired to get a clearer insight into the mysteries of expression. It would be hard to say that Burton's method is a better one than Gilbert's, as each painter will adopt the one that most readily meets his wants; but Burton has chosen one that leads him to the fullest development of the powers he possesses. Gilbert, with greater powers, dissipates in magnificent sketches the faculty that should have placed him in the front rank among the painters of the age. We must defer further notice of this Exhibition till next week.

ART NOTES.

HER MAJESTY honoured Mr. Foley and Mr. Theed with a visit at their studios. At Mr. Foley's the Queen inspected the monument of the late General Bruce, and at Mr. Theed's her Majesty inspected the statues of the Prince Consort and the Duchess of Kent, which are in progress.

MESSRS. FOSTER of Pall Mall will sell this day a very choice and extensive collection of Water-Colour Drawings, including specimens of most of our eminent artists in this favourite line of painting.

MUSIC.

MR. BALFE'S OPERA, &c.

FURTHER acquaintance with Mr. Balfe's new opera does not tend to alter the impressions formed on a first hearing. Listening to "Blanche de Nevers" as to other recent works from the same brain, it is impossible to help feeling two things—the reality of the composer's power and the weakness of his results. Piece after piece shows the dash and self-possession of the master of the art; but they suggest, at the same time, irresistibly, the feeling that he is not using half his real strength. We have reason to complain—if genius is not too sacred a thing to be so brought to task—of the ultra-particularity of a Meyerbeer, who keeps an opera seventeen years in his desk rather than run the risk of an incomplete performance. The world loses something by this; but how much more by the devil-may-care fashion in which men like Mr. Balfe and Donizetti toss off opera after opera with seemingly no other purpose than to satisfy the commercial demand of the hour. This is a gross case of what the political economists call unproductive consumption—consumption of the vital forces of genius for results which a few years after are forgotten, non-existent, impalpable. It is very easy, no doubt, for Mr. Balfe to knock off a library of operas like "Blanche de Nevers" or "The Armourer of Nantes," but he will be fortunate if more than one out of every half-dozen of the series live more than the six weeks of their first "unparalleled success." Your Meyerbeer, on the other hand, is certainly very slow and provoking, with his prolonged years of gestation; but his progeny, when it comes, is of a strength which may well promise a century or so of life. We do not mean, of course, that a "Satanella" would grow into a "Prophète" by being shut up for any number of years in a portfolio; but it is quite certain that music in which there was any reasonable proportion of such melody as Mr. Balfe has written in his happier moments, united to a drama such as might be of some small interest to a rational human being, would live to a very respectable old age, and have a fair chance, if it fell out of fashion, of being revived for the delight of other generations. It is difficult to see how such winning melodies as the "Power of Love," or the

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"swallow" song in the "Armourer of Nantes," could ever lose their charm; yet what chance is there of the operas in which they are found being played five years hence?

If two or three captivating tunes could make a good opera, and one star-singer a good company, "Blanche de Nevers" would be what the advertisements describe it—a "brilliant success." The duet for soprano and tenor, "Must we part?" and Miss Pyne's ballad, "As sunlight beaming" (both of which we mentioned last week) are really very charming pieces, though the effect of the duet is somewhat marred by the vulgarity of a prolonged unison and by a commonplace "second part." This same "second part" seems to be always the weak point in Mr. Balfe's airs. Too often the melodic impulse appears to exhaust itself with the first phrase; after which comes a perfunctory bit of pattern-writing, leading to the inevitable *reprise*. How many of Mr. Balfe's songs are marred by this defect! "Come into the garden, Maud," will be remembered as one of a great number of instances. This lack of sustained spontaneity in tune-writing—if such a lack really exist—would be a defect hard to mend; but the other most obvious fault in Mr. Balfe's present manner is a self-imposed drawback. His attempt to follow the Meyerbeer fashion of orchestral accompaniment makes his compositions incoherent. Large and sonorous orchestration does not fit the style which is his by nature. After making one distinct effort—in "Bianca, the Bravo's Bride"—to achieve greatness in the arena of "Grand Opera"—an effort which certainly could not be described as a success—would he not do well in discarding altogether this element of disturbance?

Another new work, which we noticed lately in these columns, it is pleasant to be able to recur to as fully justifying the praises which greeted it from all quarters on its first appearance. Mr. Macfarren's drawing-room opera, "Jessy Lea," certainly improves upon better acquaintance. And the crowds who go to the Gallery of Illustration to see it show that the project has hit a real popular want. Small as is the scale of the whole performance, it gives no impression of triviality, because the whole is consistent with itself. We forget the smallness of the executive force in the completeness of the result. The quartet of singers and the grand pianoforte do all that is required of them, and the listeners nowhere feel that they are overweighted. An examination of the music reveals many pleasant strokes of ingenuity on the part of the composer. The amount of humour shown in the setting of some of the more bustling scenes of the little play is a merit which the ordinarily serious turn of Mr. Macfarren's writings scarcely allowed one to expect. The scene, for instance, in which the two swains are quarrelling for the possession of the coquette—a position equivalent to that of Macheath between his two charmers—is full of fun and vivacity. Miss Wynn is singing as pleasantly as ever; only is not her voice beginning to show that six days' work a week is too much for even the youngest and freshest voices? Singers should have at least, as the old song has it, two Sundays in the week. They would be better with four.

The Monday Concert of this week was signalized by the reappearance of Madame Arabella Goddard—a reappearance which, as often as it happens, is always welcome. She played the only pianoforte sonata of Mendelssohn very splendidly. In the second movement especially (in minuet-time) she showed that supreme delicacy of execution which is only the prerogative of those endowed with great power, and in which she is certainly not surpassed by any player known to London concert-rooms. Her other piece was one of Weber's sonatas for the clarinet and piano, in which Mr. Lazarus joined her. This was finely played on both sides, the precision being something marvellous. M. Lotto led, for the first time here, Beethoven's septett. Splendid as is his playing in most respects, he did not give the impression of being steady enough for the task of leader. The piece has sounded better before in the same place, so far as the strings are concerned. It was much enjoyed, nevertheless, as it never fails to be. M. Lotto's solo was a pretty air with variations by M. Vieuxtemps; and, in reply to the inevitable *encore*, he played Paganini's *moto perpetuo*. Mr. Renwick and Miss Spiller were the vocalists. The gentleman, who is understood to be a pupil of Signor Garcia, shows the effect of sound training in his clear and precise intonation, but his performance would be the better for a little southern fire.

Another series of concerts, very different from these, but good in their kind, is running a successful

career. Her Majesty's Theatre can scarcely ever have held more human beings than on Saturday last, when the attraction of a phalanx of good singers was added to the usual enticement of M. Jullien's programme. Mr. Santley, who is now becoming one of the foremost favourites of the musical public, was received with a perfect explosion of enthusiasm. His singing of "Ruddier than the cherry," and M. Sivori's astonishing performance on the violin, were welcomed with a vehemence amounting almost to turbulence. Last night was to be a Mendelssohn evening, M. Sivori being set down to play the violin-concerto.

The Crystal Palace Concert of Saturday last was made up chiefly of popular and patriotic music, *à propos* of a volunteer festival going on there at the same time. The novelty was the "Battle Symphony" of Beethoven, a production which has shared the common fate of occasional music, in failing to keep any permanent interest. It professes to describe Wellington's victory at Vittoria. The French tune of "Malbrook s'en va t'en guerre" and the English "God save the King" are made prominent subjects. Beethoven sent his piece, it is said, when finished, to the Prince Regent, but that noble person did not deign the slightest acknowledgment of the offering. Beethoven was, of course, considerably disgusted.

The Sacred Harmonic Society had a performance of "Elijah" last week. Mr. Sims Reeves, being still disabled, was not there. His place was filled by Mr. Montem Smith. R. B. L.

MUSICAL NOTES.

PARISIAN talk and writing about music furnishes more items of interest than usual this week. M. Félicien David's opera, "La Perle de Brésil," has been reproduced at the Théâtre Lyrique.—The "Society of Musical Artists" celebrated the festival of St. Cecilia's Day on Monday week by a performance of Beethoven's Mass in C at the church of St. Eustache. Strange to say, this mass, probably on the whole the greatest piece of church music known, had never been heard before in Paris. M. Adolphe Botte, the critic of the *Gazette Musicale*, says that it was executed "avec un recueillement où l'on sentait une profonde et bien sincère admiration."—Madame Borghi-Mamo has been singing with success at the Italiens in the "Barber" and "Sonnambula." Signor Baragli, who took the part of *Elvino*, appears to have given the same impression as here in London—namely, that his voice is too weak for first tenor parts.—Mlle. Adelina Patti is still at Madrid, creating a *furor* which, they say, surpasses the excitement she made in Paris or London.—The post of conductor at the Conservatoire is vacant. MM. Berlioz, G. Hainl of the Grand Opera, Alard, and several others are candidates.

A "CREDO," from a Mass by Gounod was sung on Sunday morning last as part of the ordinary service at All Saints' Church, Margaret Street.

THE *Musical Standard* of the 1st instant publishes a long letter from Dr. S. S. Wesley on the subject of temperament, a topic about which much professional and extra-professional controversy is now going on. Dr. Wesley argues strongly against the so-called "equal temperament."

THE sale by auction of the musical library and collection of the late Gresham Professor, Edward Taylor, has been in progress since Thursday at Messrs. Puttick and Simpson's and concludes today. The collection included some rare music of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries and some curious MSS., among which is an autograph of Handel.

MILLE. LUCCA has been made the heroine of a "canard" of more than usual wildness. She is said to have been engaged at £20,000 a year for five years by the management of the Paris Grand Opera. It is scarcely necessary to quote the contradiction of such a story.

MR. LESLIE announces the first subscription concert of his choir, with Madame Lemmens Sherrington and M. Lotto, for Thursday week, the 17th.

THE report of the Hospital for Incurables mentions that £500 has been given to the charity by Madame Goldschmidt and her husband, as the proceeds of the concert held for its benefit in St. James's Hall last season.

Two deaths of musical veterans have been just announced—that of Joseph Mayseder, the violinist, and Coletti, the baritone. The last was well known to London audiences in past seasons, and was for twenty years a member of the "San Carlo" company at Naples. Mayseder was seventy-four years old.

MUSIC FOR NEXT WEEK.

DECEMBER 7th to 12th.

MONDAY.—Popular Concert (Hummel's Septuor in D minor, &c.), St. James's Hall, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY.—"Messiah," by Sacred Harmonic Society, Exeter Hall, 7.30 p.m.

SATURDAY.—Crystal Palace Orchestral Concert, 3 p.m.

EVERY NIGHT.—M. Jullien's Concerts, Her Majesty's Theatre, 8 p.m.

OPERAS:—

COVENT GARDEN (English).—Every evening, "Blanche de Nevers," 7 p.m.

OPERA DI CAMERA.—Gallery of Illustration, every evening, "Jessy Lea," 8 p.m.

THE DRAMA.

"GISIPPUS" AT THE SURREY.

MR. ANDERSON is determined to give the patrons of his theatre a chance of learning to like the Poetical Drama. At the outset of his management he put upon the stage a play of his own adaptation, written in blank verse, and, with all its short-comings, of far higher literary quality than the *habitués* of the Surrey had long been used to. Since then he has produced Shakespeare's "Winter's Tale" and "Macbeth," and, on Saturday evening last, he ventured upon the bold and delicate experiment of resuscitating one of the most thoroughly poetical works of the modern stage. Few dramas have excited greater interest on their first production than "Gisippus,"—poor Gerald Griffin's one-acted drama, brought out by Mr. Macready at Drury Lane on the 23rd of February, 1842. Exquisitely graceful in structure, pure in tone, dramatic in its development, and sustained with masterful emotional power and poetical resource, it was hailed as a work of the highest promise by "an audience fit though few;" but, in a theatrical sense, it was anything but a success. We forget how many times it was played; it was for a very small number of nights, however, in spite of the perfect manner in which it was played, and the great beauty of all the stage accessories. The cast was composed principally of Mr. Macready, Mr. James Anderson, Mr. Hudson—afterwards highly popular as a singer and actor of Irish characters—Mr. George Bennett, Mr. Henry Marston, and Miss Helen Faucit; a cast which could not possibly be equalled at the present time. It argues, therefore, something like devotion to his art when, in the face of past experience, Mr. Anderson reproduces this beautiful but strikingly unsuccessful drama. The new generation of playgoers who have sprung up since it was last played owe him thanks for the opportunity which he now gives them of seeing the kind of pieces that sought and found their way to the stage two-and-twenty years ago—for enabling them to test in a very practical manner the change for the worse which has come about during that interval of time.

It would be the height of unfairness to compare the performance of Saturday evening with that of Wednesday, February 23, 1842. In the original cast Mr. James Anderson played the part of *Fulvius*; he now plays the part of *Gisippus*, originally performed by Mr. Macready, Mr. Fernandez being cast for the character of *Fulvius*. Miss Paunceforth plays the part of *Sophonra*, first performed by Miss Helen Faucit. Mr. Anderson's rendering of the strong emotions by which the beautifully-drawn character of the trusting and unfortunate *Gisippus* is marked, is most careful and feeling; but it wants the delicacy of treatment given to it by Mr. Macready—the bloom, as it were, of poetry, which the great tragedian put upon his presentment. In his original part of *Fulvius* Mr. Anderson appeared as the very beau ideal of a youthful lover, carried away from the remembrance of his duty by the force of his love-passion and the hurrying delights of success and power. Mr. Fernandez gives an altogether rougher portrait of the forgetful friend—possibly reaching the sympathies of the noisy gallery, but hardly realizing the poet's creation. The rest of the performers did their best; and they are hardly to be taken to task for not having done better, seeing the extreme difficulty of the work assigned to them and the few qualifications they had for its execution. On every convenient occasion the audience greeted both the play and the performers with loud applause; but it was painfully evident that the close attention demanded of them was, at times, very up-hill work, and that a less delicate fare would have been more to their taste. The management promises to strike a balance with its patrons at Christmas by bringing out a "monster" pantomime. In the meantime we hope that all who care for the higher works of the stage will take the present opportunity for seeing one of the most beautiful productions of the last half-century.

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